

Mrs Williams resigns from Labour's national executive

Mrs Shirley Williams resigned from the Labour Party last night with the words: "The party I loved and worked for over so many years no longer exists." Our Political Editor writes that she and her fellow dissidents will probably leave the party formally, or resign Labour's whip, in about a month's time.

Mr Foot's compromises attacked

Mr David Steel, Liberal leader, welcomed Mrs Williams's move, but said he was not making the final break. "The announcement I am looking forward to is when she and the other social democrats actually leave the party," he said. Mr Steel is expected to reach an agreement with the Labour Party on a new electoral pact with the social democrats.

Mrs Williams's resignation came after a sharp challenge to explain where she stood from fellow NEC members, led by Mr Wedgwood Benn, in the aftermath of Labour's conference at Wembley two weeks ago. The day after the conference Mrs Williams introduced the trade union block vote into the method of electing the party leader. Mrs Williams joined in the founding of the Council for Social Democracy with Mr Roy Jenkins, Dr David Owen, and Mr William Rodgers.

Mrs Williams acknowledged privately that it had become impossible for her to remain in Labour's highest echelons while planning to form a breakaway party. But she also first wanted time to consult party allies and the union that dominated her to the NEC, the Association of Professional, Executive Clerical and Computer Staff (APEX).

One of her allies in the NEC's minority of moderates reacted bitterly last night. "The battle has to be won and cannot be won from outside, and leaving the party is going to be seen as running away," Mr John Gillingham, MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, said.

Of those supporting the social democrats, he said: "There are some who have had a genuine upbringing and, faced with a crisis, are not able to stand the rough and tumble of those of us who are used to compromise."

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'The party I loved and worked for no longer exists'

Mrs Shirley Williams's letter resignation from the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party to Mr Ronald Davies, party general secretary, is a blow to Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition. He will understand that she is potentially the largest following in the country of any of the social democratic defectors and can therefore do Labour a great harm. He made repeated appeals to her to fight her beliefs within the party. Her resignation letter, however, makes clear that she shares the compromises Mr Foot is seeking cannot stick; the NEC is another name for "dress retreat".

Last night Mr Foot made no secret of his disappointment that Mrs Williams, in a letter to Mr Ronald Davies, party general secretary, made no mention of the hit against Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

With a few of my NEC colleagues I have time and again argued that the organization and finances of the various bodies and tendencies within the party, right and left alike, should be examined, bearing in mind clause 2 of the party's constitution. But the NEC majority refuses to discuss the Underhill report and the other manifest evidence of entrenchment by well organized and well financed groups, in clear breach of clause 2.

Politics is the art of compromise and compromise must be based on give and take. I have found, however, that compromise on the NEC is another name for endless retreat. The party that is now emerging is not the democratic socialist party I joined but a party intent on controlling those of its members who are elected to public office by the people of Britain. I believe that to be incompatible with the accountability of MPs and councillors to their electors which lies at the heart of parliamentary democracy. Despite fierce and sustained ideological differences with many of my colleagues on the NEC, I have been treated on the whole with comradeship and courtesy which I appreciate.

To those who have been friends on the NEC, I can only say how sorry I am to part company with you. I do so only because I believe the party I loved and worked for over so many years no longer exists.

I am sending a letter in the same terms to Alex Kilson, chairman of the Labour Party, and I shall be releasing it to the press for tomorrow morning's papers.

Loyalists to be asked for pledge of resistance

From David Nicholson-Lord Belfast

In a controversial re-enactment of the history of the Rev Ian Paisley to hold 11 mass rallies throughout Ulster at which thousands of "loyalists" will be asked to pledge themselves to defend the union with Britain and resist the "process of alienation and integration".

The pledge will take the form of a covenant, modelled on that signed by Sir Edward (later Lord) Carson and the unionist leaders in 1912, in which "loyalists" will agree to use all means which may be found necessary to resist integration.

The rallies, starting at Omagh, Co Tyrone, on Friday night will culminate in a demonstration at Lord Carson's monument at Stormont Castle in March.

The rallies and covenant together form the second stage of Mr Paisley's opposition to the joint government studies set in motion by last December's talks in Dublin between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister.

Their announcement at a press conference in Belfast yesterday followed the show of strength on an Antrim hillside last Thursday night when 500 "loyalists" displayed firm certificates to journalists at a command from Mr Paisley.

Flanked by the hierarchy of the DUP Mr Paisley took the first step of what he described as the "Carson trail" by signing his own name at the head of the covenant. The campaign, he said, would consist of "more than rallies", but when asked if that might mean a confrontation between his supporters and security forces he used the

Murdoch 'Times' bid progresses well

By Paul Routledge

Mr Rupert Murdoch's proposed takeover of Times Newspapers took a big step forward last night when he reached agreement in principle with newspaper union leaders on three key issues: redundancies, wage-increases and a dispute procedure to avert unofficial pickets.

After six hours of talks in New Printing House Square, Mr Murdoch and senior managers of News International (NI) were guardedly confident that they will meet the deadline of Thursday midnight for agreement with the unions that Thomson British Holdings (TBH) requires before the five titles can be sold.

Mr Murdoch said he was "a lot closer" to satisfying Thomson's requirements for buying The Sunday Times, The Times and its supplements after two weeks of hard bargaining with national and office officials of the newspaper unions.

"We have jumped some important hurdles," he said.

News International managers were working late last night on the final draft of agreements with the unions, but it is clear that some broad issues have been resolved at national level.

The most important of these is a new dispute procedure for the company's 4,000 employees which seeks to reassert the authority of union leaders over their chapel (office branch) committees, who have been blamed for much damaging disruption over the past few years.

But while the sovereignty of the unions' rule book is to be restored, a status quo clause is being inserted in the house disputes procedure so that working arrangements are frozen while grievances are investigated.

On wages, the print unions



Mr Paisley displaying his "Ulster's Declaration" yesterday.

Premier resigns after new Solidarity crisis shakes Poland

Warsaw, Feb 9. — Mr Jozef Pankowski, the Polish Prime Minister, resigned at the end of the Communist Party Central Committee plenary session tonight, the official news agency PAP announced.

It said General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Defence Minister, would be proposed to take his place.—UPI.

Warsaw, Feb 9. — Mr Tadeusz Grabski, a hard-line member of the Polish Politburo, opened a session of the Communist Central Committee today with an attack on economists in the Solidarity free trade union.

As the country plunged into a fresh industrial crisis, he accused sectors of Solidarity of trying to spread chaos and promote counter-revolution. Mr Grabski also rounded on Solidarity's dissident allies.

In the important southern province of Jelenia Gora, a general strike broke out over demands that a luxury police sanatorium be handed over to the local hospital.

Mr Grabski's speech differed only in tone and length from an attack on Solidarity extremists last week by Mr Stanislaw Kania, the party leader. Its content was thought likely to please Moscow and other suspicious Eastern block neighbours.

He repeated Mr Kania's line in opposing the creation of independent unions for private farmers, whose application for official recognition comes up before the Supreme Court tomorrow.

"There have emerged dangerous tendencies in Solidarity," Mr Grabski declared. "There are people trying to divert Solidarity into destructive activities, adventurism and ultimately counter-revolution."

He said he was particularly concerned by the continuing relationship between the union



Polish economic hopes, page 5

Setback for Britons in Iran after delay in deporting US woman

From Tony Allaway Tehran, Feb 9

Iranian authorities kept diplomats guessing today about when they would release the four jailed Britons, informed sources reported that Swedish and British envoys were "disappointed" that the four, jailed since last August, were not sent on a scheduled flight that left Tehran for London today.

The diplomats were given further promises by Government officials today that the four would be released "soon" — one source close to the talks said. "But we have heard that so many times already."

The source said there was still confidence that they would be released this week. But there were some signs of unease after authorities at Tehran's international airport refused to allow Government officials to deport Mrs Cynthia Dwyer, an American freelance journalist, convicted last week on spying.

"It's incredible," one senior Western diplomat said. "How could it happen? When you deport someone, you just put them on a plane and send them off."

Mrs Dwyer, aged 49, was whisked from a prison car through an airport cargo terminal to avoid waiting

journalists, an example of the somewhat excessive secrecy that has surrounded the case. Later the international press reported that she had left Iran after being assured by official Iranian sources at the airport that she boarded the plane.

But Swiss officials later said Mrs Dwyer had been turned back, because of problems about her exit papers, although she was accompanied by Foreign Ministry, Prison and Justice Department officials with orders for her deportation. It is possible that Mrs Dwyer had been given the go-ahead before passport officials refused to allow her to leave.

"The airport authorities said they wanted to have everything absolutely correct," Mr Erik Loe, the Swiss ambassador in Tehran, said. "They are handling United States affairs in Iran."

(Informed sources said the bureaucratic hitch which held up the departure of Mrs Dwyer was caused because she had lost her passport, Reuter reports.)

If nothing else, the complications in the Dwyer case point to the extreme difficulties faced in attempts to free her and the four Britons, Dr John Coleman and his wife Andrea, Miss Jean Waddell, and

Andrew Pyke. "You can call it nerve-wracking," the source close to the British negotiations said. "You have to be so careful. What happened today can happen again and you do not know whose toes you might be treading on."

There is no indication as yet that the negotiations' deep internal divisions are responsible for the holdup.

Although President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said yesterday he had seen an official document clearing the Britons of spying charges, his political opponents in control of the governmental apparatus have yet to show the documents to the diplomats concerned.

A source close to Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy who is in Tehran trying to secure the release of the three Anglican prisoners, said tonight there was "not a morsel of truth" in reports that Mr Waite was under pressure to effect a "swap arrangement" involving two Iranian held in Britain awaiting trial on charges connected with an explosion in a London hotel last May. "There is no truth in it whatsoever," the source said.

Kurds fight on, page 7

Protection for soccer managers

By Norman Fox Football Correspondent

A "gentleman's agreement" intended to stop the endless round of dismissals among managers was decided by Football League club chairmen who met for an extraordinary general meeting in Solihull yesterday. They also elected to change the points scoring system next season, giving three for a win instead of two, but the chairmen's decision not to accept a change in transfer payments was surprising in view of the financial state of the game. Although they decided against an idea to make payment of half the transfer fee compulsory "cash on the nail", they have slightly altered the system.

Mr Graham Kelly, the Football League's secretary, said that the need to enforce some restriction on transfer payments no longer seemed necessary because since the matter was last discussed in October fees had dropped as a result of "market forces". However, he admitted that the fact that few clubs had the cash available to put down influenced the decision.

Managers consistently endangered by fluctuations in the form of their teams will be

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Yorkshire miners set for action against pit closure

he first test of coalfield militancy over threatened closure of pits may come within 10 yrs. Yorkshire miners' leaders are completing plans for industrial action, including the dispatch of flying pickets to other coalfields if the national Coal Board carries out its proposal to shut Ormserre colliery, near Sheffield. Sir Derek NCB chairman, will explain to executives the industry's three unions today the full nature of the financial crisis.

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Bill Haley dies at 55

Bill Haley, who with his band, the Comets, recorded the rock classic, "Rock Around the Clock", died at his home in Harlingen, Texas, aged 55. With his synthesis of cowboy themes and blues rhythms his music swept teenage Britain and America, notably in the 1955 film The Blackboard Jungle.

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SAS criticism rejected

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600 drugs on 'black list'

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HOME NEWS

D'Oyly Carte singers petition Lords over refusal of grant

Members of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company drove in costume through London on an open-topped bus yesterday to deliver petitions at the Arts Council and Parliament protesting at the council's refusal of a grant.

Mr Frederic Lloyd, general manager, said the company could close at the end of the next provincial tour, on July 18, unless sufficient funds could be raised soon.

D'Oyly Carte is losing an average of £5,000 a week, despite nearly full houses at Sadler's Wells Theatre, and it expects to be in debt by the end of March.

Announcing the council's decision, Mr Kenneth Robinson, chairman, said the company's artistic standards were less than adequate.

An independent working party last year recommended an annual grant of between £10,000 and £100,000 for D'Oyly Carte.

Mr Robert Scott, administrator of the Palace Theatre, Manchester, who was chairman of the working party, said: "The major cities will blame the Arts Council if D'Oyly Carte closes."

He estimated that several provincial theatres would lose between 5 and 10 per cent of their business if the company stopped touring. The company spends 33 weeks every year on tour. It has never received public money.

The working party's report, published yesterday, found that D'Oyly Carte's performances were "wooden and tired" with "excessive devotion to the printed word" and some of the older members of the company "are due for a rest".

It is not an argument that much impresses the company's many supporters. More than 2,500 of them signed the petition.

Two illustrious supporters were at the House of Lords to greet the "peers" from London and receive their petition. Sir Harold Wilson, a trustee of the company, and Lord Elwyn-Jones took part in a rendering of "Loudly let the trumpet bray".

Sir Harold said he was tabling a Commons motion regretting the council's decision.

Lord Elwyn-Jones said: "It is a scandal that this great English institution should be imperilled by the meanness of a public body."



Sir Harold Wilson, a trustee of the D'Oyly Carte company greeting costumed opera singers outside Parliament yesterday.

Arts minister deplores lack of warning in withdrawal of subsidies

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Paul Channon, Minister of Arts, wrote yesterday to Mr Kenneth Robinson, chairman of the Arts Council, expressing concern at the way recent cuts in grants to some companies were made.

The matter was raised by MPs at the first arts questioning session last week and Mr Channon had talks with Mr Robinson on Wednesday.

In an interview yesterday the minister said the disquiet had not been so much over the distribution of grants as over the fact that more warning could have been given to the 11 companies whose financial support was withdrawn.

Mr Channon said: "After my question time there was so much interest on all sides of the House that Mr Robinson and I had a long talk at my office two days later."

"I have now written to him about it; it is not for me to say whether the Arts Council was right or wrong in deciding, for artistic reasons, to give more to some, less to others."

Mr Channon was appointed a little more than a month ago when the Prime Minister replaced Mr Norman St John-Stevas.

Apart from "reading in", he has given evidence to a select committee, delivered the Guardian Lecture, answered his first monthly Commons ques-

tions, seen the chairman or directors of all the national museums and galleries, and given many interviews.

Today he submits himself to the traditional "photo-call" faced by all new ministers.

He has also had hundreds of letters from most parts of the country. "You are the first person", he said with a smile, "who has not asked me for £10m."

Last weekend he was in Paris for the much acclaimed opening of Britten's *Peter Grimes* and the Gainsborough Exhibition and he was impressed by the great amount of British activity going on there. He also had talks with the Ministry of Culture.

Mr Channon wants to see more cultural exchanges, especially on a regional basis. "Grenoble might come to Cheshire, for example. And he is about to make an extensive tour of the regions to talk to arts associations and similar bodies about their difficulties."

He is determined, as was his predecessor, to save the Victoria and Albert Museum's art slides collection, and ways of doing that are still being examined; and he is as dedicated as Mr St John-Stevas to public lending right, the scheme for compensating authors for books borrowed from public libraries.

"My hope is still that it will be in operation by 1982-83 but there are still many hurdles, many problems, both technical and legal, to be overcome."

Ask the minister what his ambitions are for the arts and he states them categorically. He is, first, waiting to see what the Commons Education, Science and the Arts Committee will have to say in its report on the public and private funding of the arts. But there are several other things he would like to do.

"I want to give some more cohesion to the museums' arrangements in this country; their structure is a little bit out of date."

"Secondly, and this came up at the select committee, I have to ask what is now the right course for the national heritage and try to do a bit to help that."

"Third, I want to see if we could not harness the libraries to do more at this time of the great explosion in information retrieval; so, more attention to the library services."

"And fourth at a time of very difficult economic circumstances I would like to do my best to keep the arts afloat. There have been great strides in recent years. When cuts are being made all round, it is not possible for one area to expand while everything else is contracting."

"But on the whole—yes, you can call me an optimist."

The union says the increases would drive passengers away and worsen the financial crisis. They have called for the reinstatement of their members and a return to the old fare structure.

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Thousands walk as dispute stops buses

Thousands of people in Bristol walked or got lifts to work in the rain yesterday because the city's bus services were again at a standstill because of the dispute over increased fares.

Union and management talks were taking place in an attempt to end the clash, which has led so far to the dismissal of nine busmen and the suspension of about a hundred others.

As crews arrived for shifts yesterday they were asked again if they would implement the new fares. They refused, leaving buses idle and commuter traffic congesting roads to the city.

The trouble began on Sunday when the fare rises, of between 1p and 8p on most routes, were due to start. As busmen refused to implement them they were suspended, and nine were dismissed after disciplinary hearings.

The increases are part of Bristol Omnibuses' plan to reduce a deficit of more than £2m. The union says that if the increases are implemented they will make Bristol fares the highest in Britain.

The union says the increases would drive passengers away and worsen the financial crisis. They have called for the reinstatement of their members and a return to the old fare structure.

Reprieve for ferry service to Belfast

From a Staff Reporter

A conditional reprieve by the P & O company for the troubled ferry service between Liverpool and Belfast was announced yesterday. The company is to review operations in the autumn, after a sales campaign designed to increase traffic by the 15 per cent needed to break even.

Mr Ian Church, executive chairman of P & O Ferries, described the reprieve as an act of faith by the company, but said that both industrial relations and the service's poor record of reliability would have to improve dramatically.

"Everybody has got to understand that we have only one source of revenue, and that is our clients. We cannot let them down without letting ourselves down," he said.

Although it is not regarded by the Government as a strategic link, the line's unreliability has led to much traffic, particularly freight, switching to the routes between Larne and the Scottish ports.

Arbitration hope: The prospect of arbitration in the seamen's dispute was revived last night despite disagreement between leaders of the industry's two sides about possible terms of reference (our Labour Staff writes). Failing a real peace move very soon the National Union of Seamen is likely to consider spreading the dispute

Cave team deny intention to preempt official study

By Norman Hammond

Archaeology Correspondent

A group of archaeologists who claimed anonymously at the weekend that a Stone Age site in a cave at Symonds Yat, Hereford and Worcester was the result of natural fissuring said yesterday that their visit had been private. They had not intended that it be reported in the press before an official inspection on Thursday.

Dr Ruth Whitehouse, of Lancaster University, speaking

also for Dr Roger Jacobi, of the same department, and Dr Stephen Green, of University College, Cardiff, said they did not know that the cave was on Forestry Commission land, and that permission was needed for access.

She was sure, however, that the group had found the place in the cave where the engravings had been reported by Mr Thomas Rogers in the January issue of the *Illustrated London News*.

Wider race incidents study sought

By Our Political Staff

A call for the Home Secretary's inquiry into racist incidents to include attacks on all groups, including white people and those whose cottages were burnt down in Wales, was made last night by Mrs Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston.

An "increasing number" of white people were being harassed on a racial basis, Mrs Knight claimed in a speech to "conservatives" in Dorset, Dorset. If they were not also considered and protected the proposed inquiry might contain the seeds of "great bitterness".

Mrs Knight said all dealings in this "difficult area" must strive to be fair, and the Home Secretary "must not allow his inquiry to be racist in its operation".

Bill on nationality will not fall, minister says

By Lucy Hodges

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, said last night that he would not withdraw the Nationality Bill, due to begin its committee stage today, in the face of criticism.

Speaking on the BBC television programme, *Parliamentary Questions*, he said that the Government was prepared to work constructively to make changes in the Bill if necessary.

He said he thought some people would look back on the Bill and say it was not such a bad thing, because it made them British citizens for the first time. Under questioning from Mr Paul Sieghart, chairman of the executive committee of justice, the British section of the International Commission of Jurists, he agreed that Britain was the only country in the world which did not give all of its citizens the right to live in the country.

He emphasised, however, that those in the newly created categories of British overseas citizens and citizen of the British dependent territories, the precursor citizens of the United Kingdom and colonies, did not at present have the right to live in Britain. There would be no change in that respect.

The Government had decided not to give people born in Britain the automatic right of British citizenship because, in the modern world people travelled more.

The minister was asked by Sir Robin Day about the commitment made by Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour spokesman on home affairs, in a television interview on Sunday that a future Labour government would repeal such a law. Mr Raison said that did not tally with Mr Hattersley's comments in the Commons.

Council wants to control second homes

Welshmen who express their dislike of holiday homes find it difficult to avoid suspicion that they are sympathetic to arsonists who burn them.

That is why Gwynedd County Council, in a recent memorandum to the Minister of Local Government and Environmental Services, has emphasised that it is only following the Lake District planning board in seeking powers to control the growth of second homes.

The councillors of Gwynedd have a delicate path to tread. In one hand they must acknowledge the financial benefit tourism brings to the area, while on the other recognising the frustrations of local people who have been priced out of the market.

Inevitably, holiday homes proliferate in areas of outstanding beauty and Gwynedd, which contains the breathtaking Snowdonia National Park, has thousands of them. A survey in 1979 showed that there were more than 8,000 second homes in Gwynedd, more than 1,000 chalets and 19,275 static caravans.

In some communities, such as Llanbedrog, the number reaches more than 40 per cent of the housing stock and in Gwynedd as a whole there are

Regional report

Tim Jones
Cardiff

As many second homes as there are families on the waiting lists of housing authorities.

According to the county council the growth of second homes is a symptom of a 60-year decline in the rural economy.

"It is clear", the memorandum states, "that the high level of second homes prevailing in several communities in Gwynedd must inevitably have a detrimental effect on the social life of the villages concerned. Not only are the vast majority of second home owners unable to participate in the social life of the village but the dwellings are left vacant for a substantial part of the year."

The memorandum does not study the effects of second homes on the community and therefore there is no mention in it of the diffusion of *Y Pro Cymraeg*, the term used to describe those areas where the Welsh language is still strong.

It is this factor, coupled with economic considerations, that has spurred a few fanatics to break the law and endanger life. The memorandum appeals to the minister to consider amending the Town and Country Planning Act to enable the council to "control the change of use of a dwelling house previously used as a first home to a second home".

It argues for powers to restrict the occupancy of new houses to people employed close to the property. The county council could be more effective in the housing field, the document claims, if it was able to buy properties without government consent and renovate them with the aid of grants.

Grants should also be available, it states, for local people to purchase and rehabilitate small dwellings which would otherwise become second homes.

Unless such measures are adopted, the authors say, there will be a large increase in the number of second homes in Gwynedd within five years. It is implied, but not stated, that local frustrations will be used as an excuse by extremists to intensify their arson campaign.

Magistrates 'give fewer jail sentences than judges'

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Magistrates tend to give significantly fewer prison sentences than the crown courts, given the same set of circumstances, the Justices' Clerks' Society claimed yesterday in evidence to the Commons Home Affairs Committee.

The society was referring to the range of sentencing where the jurisdiction of the crown court and magistrates' court overlap. "It would be wrong," it said, "to see, as some commentators have, the magistrates' courts as adopting a more repressive attitude to sentencing than the judges of the crown court."

cause of the passing of custodial sentences at the crown court in cases that would, and probably should, have been dealt with by magistrates who would almost certainly not have imposed a custodial sentence.

If there was a genuine desire to reduce the prison population there should be an immediate reconsideration of the right to demand trial by jury for minor offences.

Jury trial should not be granted for certain offences, including driving while disqualified, possessing an offensive weapon, assault occasioning actual bodily harm and fraudulent use of an excise licence.

The society said that the present range of work between the two levels of criminal court, the crown court and the magistrates' court, gave rise to much delay,

Lorry drivers at Ford Dagenham vote to go back

By Our Labour Staff

The strike by 440 lorry drivers at Ford's plant at Dagenham was called off yesterday after overwhelming acceptance of a formula to end the dispute about the use of an outside contractor for a road haulage journey to the company's factory in Genk, Belgium.

The drivers voted to return to work after hearing an account of negotiations from Mr Ronald Todd, the Transport and General Workers' Union chief negotiator. The strike halted Cortina and Fiesta production and led to 19,000 employees being laid off.

The company said last night that three trial trips to foreign destinations would be made by its driver during the month to assess cost efficiency compared with rail.

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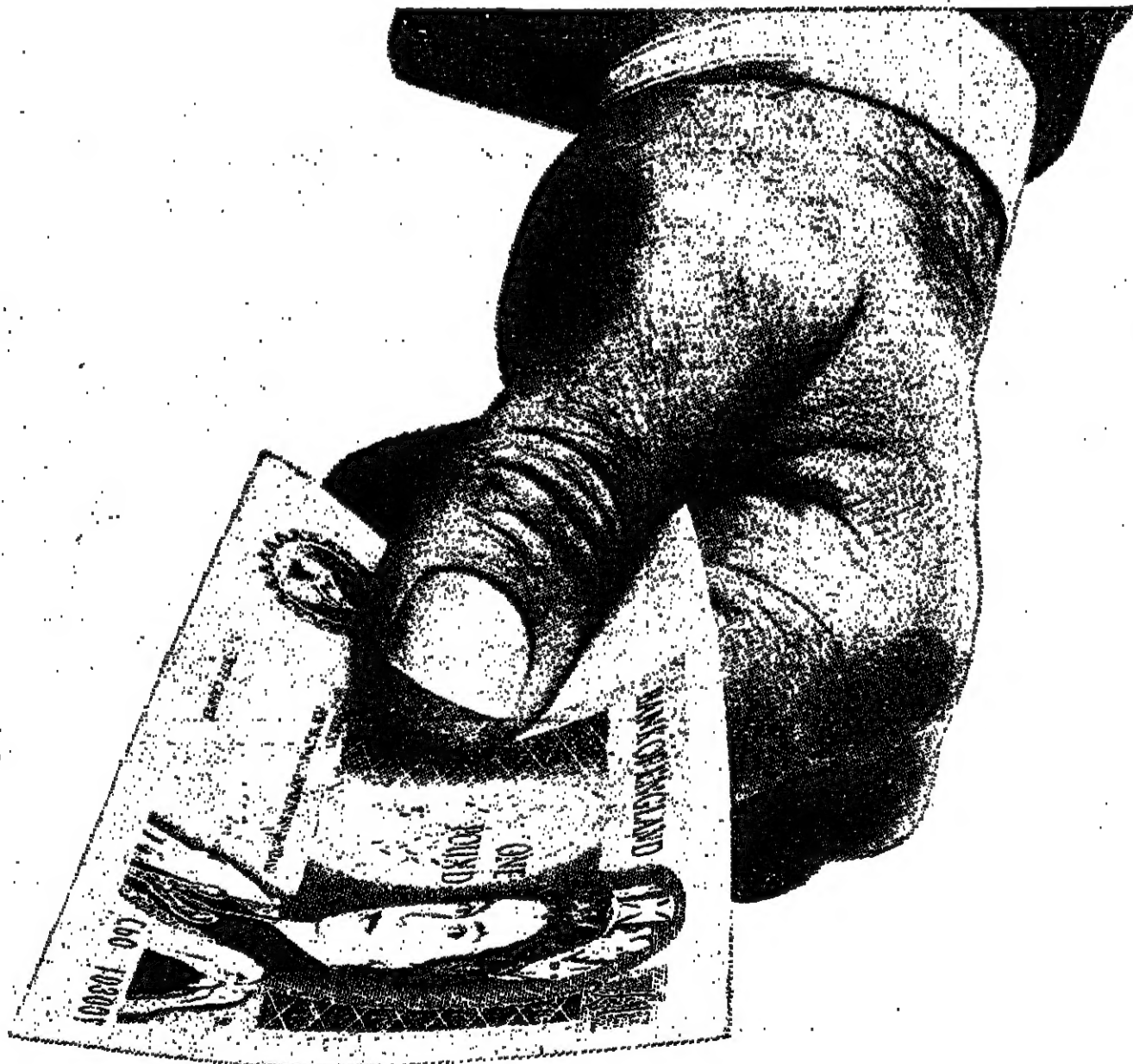
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HOME NEWS

Guide for doctors says 600 medicines too costly or of little use

By Nicholas Timmins

A new guide aimed at helping doctors to prescribe more cheaply and more effectively has listed more than 600 medicines, some with household names, as not recommended for use, many of them because they have little effect or because cheaper, simpler alternatives are available.

The guide, the updated *British National Formulary*, has been prepared by the British Medical Association and the Pharmaceutical Society, with the backing of the Department of Health.

It brought cries of protest yesterday from the drug industry, which complained that it had not been consulted and that the guide created a virtual blacklist of drugs.

The guide sets out, for the first time in one place, indications for use, side-effects and conditions that indicate a drug should not be used, and the relative cost of virtually all 4,500 medicines on the market, together with a recommendation about which are suitable and which are less suitable for use.

The list of drugs not recommended includes most brand-named cough mixtures, including *Acidol* and *Benzlin*, a wide mixture of painkillers, including the prescription-only *Dalgin*, one of the most widely used analgesics, and many compound vitamins.

At a press conference to launch the formulary, Dr Frank Wells, secretary of the joint formulary committee, said the aim was not to blacklist drugs but to indicate those less suitable for use.

"Many of those not recommended are compound mixtures, for example, of pain-killers or cough mixtures, where a single aspirin or paracetamol, or a plain linctus would be just as effective and cheaper," he said.

Providing relative costs of drugs would enable doctors to choose cheaper alternatives where available. It had been estimated that up to £25m could be saved on the yearly drugs bill of £750m if doctors prescribed drugs under their generic, rather than brand names.

The new formulary, which is to be updated twice a year and sent to all doctors and pharmacists, says there is no scientific basis for prescribing expectorant cough mixtures, and compound mixtures with several similar ingredients offered no advantage. Those that mixed expectorants with cough suppressants were to be deprecated.

Compound mixtures of aspirin, paracetamol, and codeine were not recommended. They rarely had any advantage, might increase the cost of treatment unnecessarily and could complicate the treatment of overdose. Distalgesic, for example, in overdose, could depress breathing, as well as cause liver damage.

An official of the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry said: "A lot of manufacturers are going to be very upset that such a value judgment has been placed on their drugs on purely academic basis." He added that despite the disclaimer, doctors would interpret it as a blacklist.

Inquiry into 'jail drinks ring'

By Our Crime Reporter

Allegations of a drink, drugs and gambling ring in Wandsworth prison, in south London, are to be investigated, the Home Office said yesterday. The claims were made in *The Sun* newspaper yesterday by a former prisoner.

But last night it was not clear who was to make the investigation. The Home Office said in a statement during the day that the inquiry was being conducted by the police. Scotland Yard said it was not investigating the allegations, and when told that the Home Office was investigating the claims.

Mr Kenneth Johnson, who was released recently after a sentence for fraud, claimed drugs and drink were smuggled into the prison by a prison officer. He said he distributed the goods, charging £10 for a half bottle of whisky and £5 to £10 for heroin or cannabis.

The former prisoner told the newspaper that at weekends prisoners in one wing crowded into a cell to watch a portable television set brought in by an officer while they gambled and drank. He claimed that prisoners took heavy doses of drugs and alcohol, and made lesser allegations about Northway prison, in Sussex, where he says he was allowed to drive himself to hospital for an X-ray because no staff were available to guard him.

He claimed that Mr Henry MacKenney, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in the contract murder trial last autumn, was among the prisoners at Wandsworth who regularly got drunk.

Drugs teams duplicating care effort

By Stewart Tendler

Half of the young drug takers receiving emergency help at the City Roads hostel in north London were already being dealt with by medical or social services before going to the unit, a report on the hostel's work shows.

The hostel was set up in 1978 to help drug abusers who fell outside the net of the drug dependency clinics. In the first two years of operation it received 1,263 requests for admission and took in about 200 people.

The report's case histories provide an illustration of the growth of drug abuse. Nearly half of the residents were admitted a second time.

Eighty-five per cent of them reported recent or frequent use of types of barbiturates not covered by the dependency clinics. Almost half of the residents reported using at least three different types of drug; more than half reported present use of opiates such as heroin.

Ten per cent were receiving maintenance doses of an opiate drug from a clinic and almost a quarter were in contact with a psychiatrist or social worker; 28 per cent were in touch with a probation officer.

The unit was designed to provide a breathing space for the drug takers and if possible guide them towards rehabilitation. Many addicts were caught in a cycle of taking overdoses, emergency hospital treatment and fresh overdoses. The hostels in central London could do little but release the young people after treating them.

Law officer horrified by criticism of SAS

By Hugh Noyes

Parliamentary Correspondent Westminster

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, told the House of Commons yesterday that he was horrified by a suggestion by a Labour MP that the Special Air Service Regiment soldiers who rescued the Iranian Embassy hostages in London had summarily executed the terrorists after they had given themselves up and that that might have been approved by the Home Office or by Sir Michael.

There were angry protests from Conservative MPs at a question from Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MP for Strathgordon West.

To Conservative cheers, Sir Michael pointed out that the matter was considered with care both at the trial at the Central Criminal Court and by the inquest jury.

The courage and determination shown by those involved in the rescue, which saved an unknown number of lives, was a matter of pride for everyone, Sir Michael said, and he especially wished to add his admiration for the conduct of Police Constable Trevor Lock.

He told Mr Canavan that the Director of Public Prosecutions, in deciding whether to institute criminal proceedings against members of the Armed Forces acting in support of the civil authorities, used the same criteria as in ordinary circumstances.

Sir Hugh Fraser, Conservative MP for Stafford and Stone and a former member of the SAS, said it was incredible that a member of the Opposition should try to damage the force.

From the Labour front bench, Mr John Morris, QC, Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, said that no one would want to detract from the congratulations over the incident or from the words of the Attorney General about the bravery of all concerned.

Parliamentary report, page 9

Whitehall brief: Dispersing some of the fogs of secrecy

Prime Minister resists a spirit of openness about government

By Peter Hennessy

In the immediate aftermath of the killing at the first opportunity last Friday afternoon of Mr Frank Hooley's Freedom of Information Bill by the Government's "payroll" vote, it is difficult to see the Thatcher Cabinet as anything but totally dedicated to that all-concealing administrative secrecy which has helped to produce an almost unbroken string of policy disasters for Britain since 1945.

But such a judgment would be unfair. In her first month of office Mrs Margaret Thatcher went further than any prime minister before her in disclosing the existence, in a parliamentary written answer, of four Cabinet committees on economic strategy, defence and overseas policy, home and social affairs and legislation.

Encouraged by her openness, and that of another Commonwealth prime minister operating in a parliamentary system modelled on our own, Mr Pierre Trudeau of Canada, who published the titles and membership of all his Cabinet committees last summer, I wrote to Mrs Thatcher last month asking her to go further, and enclosing the Trudeau list I had been given in Ottawa.

Last week I received a courteous reply from Mr Bernard Ingham, her Chief Press Secretary, saying that the Prime Minister was interested to learn of Mr Trudeau's action but was not prepared to alter her view of what is appropriate here.

To go further than her answer of May, 1979, Mrs Thatcher believes "would not be consistent with the principle of collective responsibility as it has developed in this country."

So, as a contributor to the spirit of openness to which the Prime Minister has yet to be fully converted, and as a service to the consumers of their product, the general public, "Whitehall brief" would like to present a tabular guide to those Cabinet committees, both ministerial and official, whose existence has become known since May, 1979, despite the fog of secrecy to which the Government has enshrined them.

CONSUMERS' GUIDE TO MRS THATCHER'S CABINET COMMITTEES

Initials	Chairman	Functions
E	Mrs Thatcher	Economic strategy, energy, the most important EEC matters.
E (PSP)	Sir Keith Joseph	Public sector, new policy.
E (EA)	Sir Keith Joseph	Micro-economic affairs and aspects of industrial policy.
E (CS)	Lord Soames	Civil service and contingency planning for public service strikes.
E (DL)	Sir Geoffrey Howe	Disposal of state industries and assets.
PESC	Sir Geoffrey Howe	Annual expenditure survey, round plus any special aids associated with the Cabinet.
OO	Mrs Thatcher	Foreign affairs, defence and Northern Ireland, EEC policy.
OD (E)	Lord Carrington	Preparation of new initiatives.
OD (I)	Mr William Whitelaw	Supervision of the clandestine agencies.
OD (M)	Mrs Thatcher	Joint Intelligence Committee scrutinising the activities of the Armed Forces and the mobilisation of the Armed Forces and the involvement of the Armed Forces in the NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries.
TWC	Sir Robert Armstrong	Transition to War Commissions planning the mobilisation of the Armed Forces and the involvement of the Armed Forces in the NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries.
HD	Mr Robert Wade-Gary	Civil Defence.
SPM	Sir Anthony Duff	Security and policy/members of the Civil and Diplomatic services, including positive voting.
H	Mr Whitelaw	Home and social affairs, including education.
OGU	Mr Whitelaw	Civil Contingencies Unit which plans to brief and keep essential industries and services going.
HP	Sir William Pyrie	Nationalised industries policy.
CL	Mr Francis Pym	Queen's Speech.
MISC 7	Mrs Thatcher	Remuneration of Ministers with a new nuclear deterrent.
MISC 14	Sir Geoffrey Howe	Innovations.
MISC 21	Mr Robin Lobb	Chairing level of rate support grant.
MIO	Mr Pym	Meeting of information officers to manage news media irregularly because of persistent leakage.
MIO (E)	Mr Bernard Ingham	Management of government economic news, media irregularly because of persistent leakage.
ECOM	Mr Angus Fraser	Meeting of Whitehall establishment officers of the industrial relations, recently commissioned to fight off threat of freedom of information.

A word of explanation is needed. The committees are divided into two types: standing, or permanent bodies such as E, E (PSP) and OD (these terms are explained in the accompanying table); and ad hoc, or miscellaneous groups, such as MISC 7. Most, but not all, ministerial gatherings are shadowed by official committees of civil servants such as E (CS), under Mr Angus Fraser, of the Civil Service Department, which works to E (CS).

One of the most secret is the steering committee on intelligence, chaired by Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet. It supervises the work of the JIC and advises the Prime Minister's very select ministerial group.

Mrs Thatcher has managed to govern with a much leaner committee structure than any of her predecessors since 1945. The list published in the table is far from complete. Any public-spirited minister or civil servant inclined to the view that the Government's attitude towards Cabinet committee secrecy is excessive could fill the gaps by supplying details in an unsigned, typed message, slipped in the traditional brown envelope favoured by "ministers" and addressed to *The Times*, taking care, naturally, to remove any incriminating trademarks that might provide clues for his or her departmental security officer and MIS.

In brief

Labour MP not to stand again

Mrs Sheila Wright, aged 55, Labour MP for Birmingham, Handsworth, since 1979, will not defend the seat at the next general election because of a recurrence of a blood disorder. She said yesterday that doctors had advised her to avoid the stress of another campaign.

General election: Mrs Wright (Lab), 1979, 15,789; 1974, 15,789; 1970, 15,789.

Lottery move praised

The Government's decision last week to double the amount of money that can be won in lotteries from July 1 was welcomed yesterday by Sir Thomas Gowers, Secretary of the Lotteries Council, although he said he would be pressing for the limits to be increased even further.

Newspaper strike ends

The *Daily Evening Telegraph* was published yesterday after the settlement of a week-long dispute with printing workers. The newspaper was printed for the first time on web offset presses at new premises in Meadow Road, Derby.

Boy gets back fingers

Stephen Irving, aged 14, of Bedford, who lost a finger and thumb in an explosion at his home, was recovering yesterday after surgeons at Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, Middlesex, stitched them back on.

Electrician crushed

Mr Michael Byrne, aged 28, an electrician, of Abingdon, Oxfordshire, was crushed to death by a hydraulic platform against the ceiling of a paint shop at Pressed Steel Fisher, Cowley, Oxfordshire, yesterday.

Heat may cost more

Families in Manchester council houses that use district heating schemes will be charged up to £17.07 a week for energy, in addition to rent and rates, if the full council approves the decision.

Town hall spared

Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council has rejected plans to demolish the former town hall and replace with a five-storey block of shops and offices.

Peace at Festival Hall

A dispute about overtime payments that led to a staff strike at the Festival Hall, in London on Sunday was resolved yesterday.



Photograph by Brian Harris

Ports throughout Britain are picketed by fishermen in protest at cheap imports

Fishing ports around Britain were picketed yesterday by fishermen protesting at cheap foreign imports, as the entrances and processing factories were the main targets.

Appeals were made to fish porters and lorry drivers at Grimsby to join the protest, but there were indications that they were uneasy about reports from fishing ports around the coast revealed the extent of the protest.

North Shields: Fishermen picketed a Tyneside dock to prevent imported fish valued at more than £60,000 reaching the market.

The men mounted their pickets on Sunday after 300 of them were dismissed by their employers, who say cheap imported fish is making it impossible for them to earn a living.

The first imports to be affected were four containers of fish valued at £13,000 which arrived from Denmark at the weekend. Yesterday that fish was still lying on the quayside and there were fears that it would deteriorate.

The second consignment of fish arrived in the Tyne from Norway yesterday. Mr Peter Kinnair, a director of Andrews Gilbert, of North Shields, whose company receives fish from Norway twice a week, said: "I feel very bitter. My company has been importing fish from Norway for the past 20 years. It is not cheap fish. It is different fish, and this loss is worth about £20,000."

Mr Kinnair said the fish was large haddock and that his imports did not affect the North Shields market.

Unless his company received a supply of fish soon, the 30 men would be unable to handle Norwegian imports would have to be dismissed.

The Tyne fishing fleet of 70 boats in tied up at North Shields because of the protest. Grimsby fishermen sealed off the port, but a deal between the fishermen and merchants allowed four Danish smacks with 10,000 tonnes of cod into the port in addition to six local North Sea boats with 11,650 tonnes of cod.

Mr Murdoch McInnes, the fishermen's leader, said his men want to do as little damage to local trade as possible, but that lorry loads of cheap Dutch cod brought into Britain through ports such as Dover and Harwich were the prime targets.

No foreign vessels will be allowed to land until Thursday morning, by which time the fishermen hope an official EEC common fisheries policy will have been announced.

The men are likely to have few foreign ships to picket, as Brussels negotiations, page 5

Dog show judge accused of taking bribes

Mr David Stevens paid Frederick Dempster, a dog show judge, £25 to favour his Belgian Shepherd in an attempt to prove that judges were corrupt, Manchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Dempster accepted the £25 and later a sum of £5, Mr John Rowe, for the prosecution, said. Mr Stevens later sold the story of his alleged exposure of corruption to a Sunday newspaper for £3,000.

Mr Dempster, aged 73, of Ashford Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, has denied two charges of corruption.

After the money had been paid, in 1977 and 1978, Mr Stevens's dog won all the classes it entered at shows in Manchester and Leeds, Mr Rowe said.

Mr Stevens's conversation with Mr Dempster about the £5 bribe was tape recorded by journalists. Mr Stevens, of Red Willow, Harlow, Essex, told the court he had told Mr Dempster he wanted his dog to be Best in Show at Manchester, and was told it would be "no problem".

Mr Dempster asked for £15, but Mr Stevens thought that was too cheap. He said he offered £25, which was accepted. The trial was adjourned until today.

More health aid for authorities in poorer areas

Government allocations to health authorities, intended to maintain a promised 1.7 per cent growth in National Health Service spending, were announced yesterday by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health.

The Government has still, however, to announce the cash limits for the coming year, which will set the real level of expenditure.

Under yesterday's announcement, money continues to be directed to authorities in poorer areas, such as Trent and North Western.

Horse dealer is fined for using Irish currency

From Our Correspondent Great Yarmouth

A horse dealer from Dublin, who said he could not read or write, told magistrates at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, yesterday that he thought the Irish and the English pounds were worth the same.

David Jones, aged 23, paid his £95 garage bill with five Irish £20 notes and then tendered another £20 note for 87p of cigarettes and chocolate. The official exchange rate on that day was 71p for an Irish pound, and by receiving English currency in change he made a considerable profit.

Wren Jeanette Crowley, of the Women's Royal Naval Service, Private Karen Hook, of the Women's Royal Army Corps, and Sergeant Dee Burkill, of the Women's Royal Air Force, who took part in the Interservice Rifle Shooting Championships at RAF Uxbridge yesterday.

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WEST EUROPE

Discord leaves policy of ruling Spanish party in confusion

From Richard Wigg

Palma, Mallorca, Feb 9

The Centre Democratic Union (UCD) ended its three-day conference today weakened, and without providing any clear directives on how Spain is to be governed in the coming months.

Leading figures of the rival Christian Democrat and social Democrat wings of the party afterwards fell to exchanging complaints about a leftward or rightward swing by the party. This airing of differences could be a threat to Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo if he is asked in the next few days by King Juan Carlos to form the next government, for he requires all the 165 votes of all the factions of the UCD parliamentary party, plus a dozen or so from the regional parties, to secure a majority in the Lower House.

Señor Adolfo Suárez has evidently retained full control over the party machine and, in a newly-created post of honorary president, can hope to advance on his idea of preparing to win the general election in 1983 or before, should persistent government crises force an earlier appeal to the country.

Señor Calvo Sotelo and Señor Agustín Rodríguez Sahagún, the Defence Minister, who has been chosen as the new party chief, have been left by the conference with a UCD manifestly more divided than ever.

Señor Suárez's dilemma line behind the scenes permitted the so-called critical sector (chiefly Christian Democrats and liberals) only seven seats on the new national executive of 37. This caused Señor Landelino Lavilla, the hitherto cautious Christian Democrat speaker of the Lower House, to run as the critics' candidate for the leadership. He obtained more than 700 of the delegates' votes, while Señor Rodríguez Sahagún, who is Señor Suárez's brother-in-law, won with just over 1,100 votes.

Señor Lavilla turned his fire on the social Democrats, alleging that there was a danger of a left-wing swing by the party. This angered Señor Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, the Justice Minister, and social Democrat leader, who issued a statement accusing the Speaker of manoeuvring to help power full interests outside the conference to launch a new right-wing and reactionary party.

Señor Suárez is the UCD politician who did best for himself by the conference. Besides his honorary presidency, he ran for a seat on the new executive and won most votes. He obtained 1,281 of about 1,900 delegate votes. He also got his manifesto office as party secretary-general.

The best that can be said of the conference is that a tight run of nations examining should be better equipped for a run-off to a general election rather than one elected, as critics wished, by proportionate representation. A social Democrat leader defending Señor Suárez reminded the delegates that the task was to elect the Social Party in 1983.

The conference reached policy decisions to assist Señor Calvo Sotelo in his negotiations to form a government. Delegates took a confused and immediately disputed decision to try to tighten the divorce law. After hours of less debate by rival factions, drafts for a party programme, two leaders of the opposition, drew up a declaration which promises everything to everyone. As a result, Spain's economic problems, unemployment it offers, for instance, both monetarist and neo-Keynesian solutions simultaneously.

Though there was talk in conference passage wavs of outright split in the UCD, words of a Catalan delegate, echoing the prevailing line, claimed the prevailing line, the elections to the executive even if it is a bit furious.

That goes for the Christian Democrats and liberals but difficulties for the social Democrats, which have a seat now, which they have to fight against a "left" party and their right against a "right" party and their right against a "left" party and their right against a "right" party.

The critics have warned new government that it face a difficult period, full of problems, and they have said that they will keep their fight against a "left" party and their right against a "right" party.

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ETA activists attack big anti-murder march

From Harry Debelius Madrid, Feb 9

Stone throwing counter-demonstrators today blocked a march against terrorism in San Sebastián which had been called in protest against the murder by Basque terrorists of a kidnapped nuclear engineer.

The San Sebastián march, like similar rallies in other Basque cities, was jointly organized by political parties and trade unions in the region as a show of opposition against the Basque separatist movement ETA which has murdered the engineer.

A general strike also took place throughout the Basque country today to demonstrate public anger. The strike was almost totally effective in San Sebastián and Bilbao, where it even affected radio stations and newspapers. Public transport, schools and shops closed down.

In Vitoria, the capital of the autonomous Basque region, the participation in the strike was estimated at 50 per cent. Several hundred people took part in the counter-demonstration in San Sebastián late this afternoon. They clashed with those leading the thousand anti-terrorist marchers, and shouts of "Long live ET" they attacked the march with stones, clubs and umbrellas.

The assassination last Friday of Señor José María Ryan, chief engineer of the still unfinished nuclear power plant at Lemóniz, near Bilbao galvanized opposition to ETA like no other incident has far. Señor Ryan, a fatherly figure, was shot dead in blood because the Spa authorities refused to accept ultimatum from ETA to de-fuse the nuclear power plant.

Over the past three years ETA has repeatedly bombed on fire and shot up the of and installations of Iberdrola the company which is built and owns the plant. Several have died in attacks.

The terrorists object to nuclear plant because they it represents a threat to safety of the residents of B. The attacks have been delayed construction.

US criticizes hypocrisy behind violence

From Our Correspondent Geneva, Feb 9

The United Nations Human Rights Commission is obliged to condemn both "those who use terrorist violence and those who support and condone it," Dr Michael Novak, the American delegate, said today.

"No world order can be built on the backs of victims of terrorism," he said. "For how shall terrorism, once unleashed by all against all, ever be contained?"

Dr Novak said many states were accepting the proposition that the ends justified the means.

That in the name of a cause, ignoble methods may be used. To that end, while criticizing the use of violence, they were providing arms training, logistical support and money to terrorist groups.

He criticized as inadequate a Soviet block draft resolution urging states to outlaw terrorism. It identified Nazism, fascism, neo-fascism and apartheid but omitted far left extremism.

West German terrorists begin jail hunger strike

From Patricia Clough Bonn, Feb 9

Twenty-nine convicted and suspected West German terrorists have started an indefinite hunger strike to demand better conditions in jail. The action was taken by six inmates in the high security wing at Stammheim jail, near Stuttgart, a week ago, and spread later to fellow-prisoners in Straubing, West Berlin and Lubeck, according to justice ministry officials.

In a letter to the West German Justice Ministry, DPA, and through their lawyers today, the terrorists said they considered themselves prisoners of war and demanded to be kept under the Geneva Convention. In particular they wanted to be put in "normal" conditions, to be treated like normal prisoners.

Good cheer for Europe for distillers

From David Wood Luxembourg, Feb 9

Scottish and Irish whisky distillers are expected to receive windfall refunds of about after a vote by the European Parliament today.

The refunds, dating back 1973, are on the "free" cost of Community used in malting whisky for port compared with the price.

The years of delay partly explained by the late tactics of wine and growing interests.

After tactical maneuver most members of the Socialist group, and a number of Liberals, joined the British group to vote in favour of a quorum and carry a proposal for the Commission to approve the refund proposal.

Although she says will Gaullist group, Mrs Willy Ewig MEP for the High Rhine and Moselle, denounced French suggestions that it was a big capitalist business she said the business little distillers.

who saw h... sheriff

Broadcaster is disqualified

Bill Grundy, the journalist and broadcaster, was given a three-month

WEST EUROPE



Icon revealed: One of 50 icons which after cleaning revealed that a flourishing community of Sicilian school painters existed in Western Sicily in the seventeenth century, among them three masters. The icons, which are to be exhibited in Palermo in April, come from religious foundations of the Eparchy of Piana, an independent Catholic bishopric of Greek rite.

Most of the works had fallen into obscurity because they were blackened by age and dirt, or else had been entirely repainted in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

In late 1979, experts were called in and they enlisted Signor Placido Scandura, a neo-surrealist painter, to undertake cleaning, consolidation and restoration.

Access to British coastal waters main obstacle in EEC fish talks

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 9

Agriculture and fisheries ministers of the EEC engaged in some tentative sparring here tonight and then retired until tomorrow morning when it is hoped that a determined effort can be made to break the deadlock in the long running negotiations over a new Community fisheries policy.

It is clear that the differences between France and Britain over access for foreign boats to British coastal waters are the main obstacles to agreement. If his can be cleared out of the way—a big assumption—member states should not find it too difficult to agree on how to share out the total fish catch.

In what appeared to be a conciliatory gesture, M. Daniel Hoefliff, the French minister, played down reports of an anti-British Franco-German alliance. "It is not a question of trying to isolate one country or another," he told journalists. "We all have to make concessions."

In talks before the meeting with Herr Hans-Jürgen Roehr, his German counterpart, Mr. Peter Walker, the British minister, was also understood to have been assured that recent German statements about the need for an early solution to the fisheries dispute were not aimed solely at Britain but at all member states.

On access, Mr. Walker is demanding that waters within 12 miles of the coast should be reserved for British fishermen though he is prepared to allow additional small-scale fishing in the south and south-west east of England, for example

by the Bretons off Cornwall, to continue.

In addition Mr. Walker says that fishing in the Irish Sea and round the north and east coasts of Britain down as far as Farnborough Head must be limited to boats of less than 80ft up to a distance of 50 miles from the shore. This clear advantage to local boats.

M. Hoefliff said tonight that France was prepared to consider a 10-year extension of the existing temporary curbs on access to coastal waters, which were agreed as part of Britain's treaty of accession. He also said that he was ready to discuss Mr. Walker's request for fishing controls beyond the 12 miles, at any rate off the coast of Scotland.

This appears to suggest that there is room for compromise. The question is what would happen at the end of the 10 years envisaged by M. Hoefliff. Mr. Walker made it clear tonight that he would want the coastal restrictions to continue automatically unless there was unanimous decision to end them, thus giving Britain a right of veto. This could be too much for the French.

The ministers had before them proposals from the European Commission on the sharing of the seven most valuable fish species. The proposals, identical to those discussed last December, give Britain around 36 per cent, in value adjusted tonnage, of these fish—cod, haddock, coley, whiting, plaice, mackerel, and redfish.

The only new element is a proposed sharing of a potential catch of 92,000 tonnes of her-

ring in parts of the North Sea and elsewhere. This appeared designed to offer a sweetener to those countries which feel that Britain has been treated too generously.

Hicherto herring fishing has been banned because of the depletion of stocks and the British consider that the recovery has not yet been sufficient to permit fishing to be resumed on the scale envisaged by the Commission. However, this is a bargaining counter that Mr. Walker could concede during the negotiations.

Fishermen protest: About 360 angry fishermen blocked the ports and 2,600 fish-processors staged brief strikes in Bremerhaven and Cuxhaven today in protest at delays by the Community's agricultural ministries in negotiating a fishing agreement (Patricia Clough writes from Bonn).

A spokesman for the fishermen described the delays in Brussels as "criminal". If an agreement was not reached soon, West German deep-sea fishing, which makes up two thirds of the fishing industry, would be finished, leaving several thousand jobsless.

About 160 fishermen occupied the locks at the entrance to the fishing harbour in Cuxhaven and 200 did the same in Bremerhaven for five hours this morning, preventing off-shore snappers and other vessels entering or leaving. Employees in near by processing factories stopped work for about half an hour.

Fishermen's leaders from both ports will meet tomorrow to discuss even tougher measures if the Brussels talks should fail.

Judge who saw himself as avenging sheriff is ousted

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 9

The minority judges' Union as called on all members of the judiciary to strike next Thursday to protest against the decision of the Magistrates' Superior Council to dismiss M. Jacques Bidalou, the non-conformist judge at Hyange.

"The independence of judges is dead, the freedom of citizens is in peril," the union proclaimed melodramatically in a statement after the announcement of the council's decision.

M. Bidalou is the first judge to be dismissed for breaches of the law. He is certainly in every respect something of a special case, and it is difficult to imagine anyone like him, pre-empting a court in Britain.

He once defined himself as a judge who does not respond to a whistle call—and he acquired some notoriety in, among other things, refusing to sentence motorists who did not wear their safety belts on the grounds that the law was a reach of individual freedom.

He once summoned M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, to appear in a case between an unemployed worker and the national health authorities. M. Barre did not turn up.

But the most grievous blot on his record, in the opinion of the council, was the legal battle he fought against the eviction of foreign workers from a hostel. The Court of Appeal in Metz quashed seven successive

orders he had issued in defiance of the court.

The most surprising thing of all is how M. Bidalou, whose approach to the law was to take the least original, even became a judge. His case is likely to start off some profound second thoughts on the present system of recruiting members of the Bench.

He had set up within the judges' Union, which in the last few years has repeatedly been in conflict with the Minister of Justice and his administration, a "punk international" of which he was the only member. He frequently posed as a sort of "people's judge", an avenging sheriff or Don Quixote of the courts, who claimed to defend the little man.

He was something of a case apart, even by comparison with the most "progressive" hot-heads among younger French judges, some of whom are transferred or even promoted by way of a sanction for their excessive or misplaced zeal.

The decision to dismiss him was not taken lightly. The council which is composed of nine senior judges appointed by the president, sat for 37 hours on Friday and Saturday.

The judgment, published in full today, says M. Bidalou committed "several seditious and repeated offences against the duties of his office."

The dismissed judge has announced his decision to appeal to the State Council on the grounds of unlawful dismissal.

Dutch squatters shifted by police bulldozers

Amsterdam, Feb 9.—Police bulldozed barricades and fought demonstrators today during a fresh flare-up of violence involving the city's squatter community.

About 1,000 police, supported by mounted police, dogs and water cannon clashed with several hundred demonstrators in street fighting. The violence centred on a heavily barricaded canal house which was occupied by squatters two weeks ago.

Police cleared surrounding streets of barriers and then smashed into the house with an armoured car to make 34 arrests.

As the squatters were brought out, bands of sympathizers spread throughout the city, smashing the windows of offices and banks. Near the house, a street barrier was set alight and hundreds of paving stones tipped up.

Police said two officers were injured in the fighting. There were no known civilian casualties but it was the biggest display of violence here since December when another building was cleared of squatters during a confrontation.

Violence involving squatters in the city is now nearly a year old.

Squatters have taken over nearly 600 buildings and every time the police move them out from a particular centre, violence is likely to break out, supported by radical groups and sympathizers.—AP.

OVERSEAS

Compromise possible in Canadian dispute

From John Best
Ottawa, Feb 9

The premiers of six provinces which are opposing Mr. Pierre Trudeau's Canadian Prime Minister's constitutional reform plan, met in a Montreal hotel room today to coordinate their strategy.

It appeared certain that one subject of the closed, all-day meeting would be a possible compromise to cool the heated debate which is dividing Canada, and threatens to poison its relations with Britain.

But they were expected also to discuss the possibility of a tougher campaign against Mr. Trudeau's plan should attempts at compromise fail. This could include sending a delegation of premiers to London to persuade British MPs to vote against the plan when it arrives at Westminster.

Under a resolution now before the Canadian Parliament, Britain would be asked to legislate a Bill of Rights and constitutional amending formula for Canada, to surrender control over the British North America Act of 1857 and all other constitutional instruments relating to Canada.

Before today's meeting in Montreal one of the premiers, Mr. Brian Peckford, of Newfoundland, told reporters that the provinces could agree on an amending formula if they were allowed more time.

It is widely assumed that Westminster would pass "on the nod" a request from Canada for patriation of the BNA Act together with an amending formula. However, a patriation measure that included a Bill of Rights would encounter considerable opposition, and might be defeated.

Mr. Trudeau has no sign that he will consider dropping the Bill of Rights. Asked in the House last week about the possibility of a compromise along the lines suggested by Mr. Peckford, and earlier by another premier, Mr. William Bennett, of British Columbia, he shrugged and said he had not seen the proposal.

The other premiers attending today's meeting were: Mr. René Lévesque of Quebec, Mr. Peter Lougheed of Alberta, Mr. Sterling Lyon, of Manitoba, and Mr. Angus Maclean of Prince Edward Island.

The formula contained in the present federal resolution would give the two central provinces, Ontario and Quebec, power of veto over future changes to the constitution, while less than total unanimity would be required among the four Western provinces, and the four Atlantic provinces.

Concern is growing about the damage being caused to Anglo-Canadian relations by the Canadian unilateralism. Sir Anthony Kershaw, the chairman of a British parliamentary committee, which last month came out against the Trudeau plan, gave warning in Edmonton, Alberta, at the weekend of "blood on the floor" before the matter was resolved.

"I only hope that good Anglo-Canadian relations are not won over casualties," Sir Anthony declared.

Under these restrictions, the three journalists, Mr. Mamoun Sayed, editor of the daily *Al Fajr*, Mr. Akram Houry, editor of the daily *Al Shab*, and Mr. Bashir Barghout, editor of the Communist bi-weekly, *Al Tawfiq*, were all prohibited from leaving their home town of Ramallah which is in the occupied West Bank 12 miles from Jerusalem.

Imposed under British-drafted emergency regulations which have been in existence since 1945, the town arrests have effectively prevented the three men from visiting the editorial offices of their papers, all of which were noted for their outspoken support for the Palestinian cause.

The restriction orders were imposed as part of the military government's so-called "iron fist" security policy which was introduced in the West Bank last May. Another reason for the ban on the editors, was that all three were members of the radical local Palestinian group known as the National Guidance Committee.

Today, Mr. Felicia Langer, a left-wing Jewish lawyer, disclosed that she has submitted a case to the Israeli High Court in an attempt to obtain a ruling allowing the three journalists to leave their town regularly for the sole purpose of travelling to their newspaper offices. The case is expected to be heard later this month.

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Three Arab nations join hands for security against superpowers

Saudi king wary of Reagan 'get tough' policy

From Robert Fisk
Jeddah, Feb 9

When Dr. Henry Kissinger received an audience from King Khalid of Saudi Arabia last month, his words were not, it seems, greeted with the fascination which the former American Secretary of State usually expects.

While that familiar Bismarck was setting out his exposition of Soviet aspirations in the Middle East, the King—according to those who witnessed the event—spent some considerable time ordering tea and straightening his robes, frequently brushing dust from his sleeves as the gurgling voice uttered the most sepulchral warnings of Soviet ambition.

Saudi television ignored the meeting and the government-controlled press agency failed to mention it for 24 hours.

It can be argued, of course, that Dr. Kissinger had merely flown into Riyadh on a private visit and that the Saudi monarch did not regard him as President Reagan's unofficial emissary.

But the Americans received even shorter shrift when President Carter instructed his ambassador in Saudi Arabia to inform King Khalid of the details of the deal negotiated with the Iranians for the release of the embassy hostages. America's most senior diplomat in one of the world's richest countries immediately sought his audience—and was then kept waiting for four days.

The Saudis have been voicing increasing fears about the possible use of the American Rapid Deployment Force, suggesting rumours that the force was being sent to the Gulf, and that it is always nice to know that the United States is ready to defend the Middle East from external aggression, it is equally important that the Americans do not sell their fleet up and down the Gulf.

Prince Saud, the Foreign Minister, suggested during the recent Islamic Conference sum-

mit in Taif that if the Americans were really anxious to stand up to Soviet aggression in Afghanistan, they should do so "inside" Afghanistan.

It is all means in the kind of "The Americans you are told constantly in Saudi Arabia, are trusted friends. But the Saudis have become acutely aware of the new super-power rivalry that could develop under President Reagan.

To provide the United States with military bases, the Saudis have merely attracts further Soviet interest in a part of the world that the Russians must anyway cover because of their own depleted oil supplies. Equally, the Americans must not be deceived by the open support of the Saudis to defend the Gulf. The two concepts are almost incompatible, and thus the Saudis are seeking some formula that will ensure their security from both superpowers—at least for the foreseeable future.

The true nature of this formula is still unclear, but it involves a new triangular relationship between Riyadh, Amman and Baghdad—a combination of conservatism, pragmatism and Arab socialism that would be laughable were it not so obviously an unofficial expression of Saudi foreign policy.

The Iraqi Baathists have little reason to love the conservative, pro-American Saudis, while the Saudis have always suspected the motives of King Hussein of Jordan, the last claimant to the Hejaz. But the three nations are feeling increasingly insecure and isolated, and can identify several common anxieties.

All fear that the Afghan conflict could spill over into the Gulf, and all fear that the resulting face-off between the Soviet and American forces could burn up their own lands. The Saudis are concerned about Soviet activity in the Horn of Africa while the Jordanians every day watch for a

sign of further collapse in the Syrian regime to their north.

All three suspect that if the left take control of an area as large as that, Iraq will have helped to bring about such a coup by attacking the Iranians across the Shatt al-Arab waterway, then the Russians will move into northern Iran with the same ease as they did during the Second World War.

Above all, they are obsessed with the idea that an even more powerful Israel will expand its territory at the slightest sign of Arab fragmentation and this enlargement—in Lebanon, they believe, is already taking place—will be undertaken with the tacit support of the United States.

It is therefore not by chance that the Saudis continue to oppose the Camp David peace treaty and that they apparently permit Soviet weapons to be shipped through their territory to Iraq.

Nor was it some vague notion of fraternal generosity that persuaded the Saudis to clean up their murdered King's grave three years ago when the Jordanian monarch came to visit his cousin's last resting place. Nor was King Hussein offering his Army to Iraq last year merely because he espoused the cause of Arab unity.

The Russians certainly have little to lose in the Middle East just now. After their sobering experience in Egypt 10 years ago, any foothold in the Arab world is an advantage.

The recent Treaty of Friendship with Syria offers scope for considerable influence in the Middle East. There are already rumours that the Russian ship improvement in the Syrian port of Latakia are being hastened so that Soviet vessels can use the harbour.

Shed their coats, the Middle Eastern diplomats, in the mind-boggling fellow diplomats that an air corridor only 300 miles long would separate Syria from Soviet territory if Russian air-

craft overflew Turkey. And why, they ask in the same breath, are the Russians increasing their embassy staff in Beirut just now?

The Jordanians are patiently waiting for the overthrow of President Assad, and Syria, which it is certain that if this gloomy prediction was fulfilled, the Alawite Government would retreat to the north of Syria. If necessary setting up its own state around the Alawite mountains east of Latakia.

This would merely be a signal for a further collapse in Lebanon where the Maronites would be in a position to start their much-publicized "cleansing of the land" pushing the half-million Palestinians into the Beqaa and Syria, and even joining up with Major Saad Haddad's Lebanese militia along the Israeli frontier.

Small tribal nations—Druse states, Maronite states, and Alawite states—would then spring up in Lebanon side by side with Sunni and Shia Muslim states, perhaps defended by the remnants of a broken Syrian army.

All this may seem absurd to day but this sequence of events remains a compulsive nightmare for the Arab nations which still retain their stability. If Syria and Lebanon were to break apart, would not the Kurds of Iraq, the Shia Muslims of southern Iran, the Palestinians of Jordan, and the Shia Muslims of Saudi Arabia, not demand their own small fiefdoms?

A chain of tiny, seceding states, fragmentation that would inevitably spread into Iran, would then resemble the matrix of subject kingdoms that existed under the Ottoman Empire, a powerful Iraqi invasion army since last September.

Refugees from the Kurdish stronghold of Mahabad reported by telephone today that defiant Kurdish guerrillas were paying no heed to government radio broadcasts offering pardon to insurgents laying down their arms before Wednesday.

Wednesday has been declared a public holiday to mark the day when jubilation at the fighters, united under the banner of Islam by Ayatollah Khomeini, seized control of Tehran in a wave of revolutionary violence, and swept away the Shah's regime.

The refugees said government forces entered on hill-tops around Mahabad, had been shelling guerrilla positions inside the city for the past 10 days, using mortars and heavy artillery.

The Kurds were replying with light automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades, according to the refugees. They said many houses in Mahabad had been wrecked and food and fuel for the civilian population were running low.

They also said that thousands of civilians had been killed, many for the safety of Orumiyyeh, capital of East Azerbaijan province north of Mahabad.

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Jewish lawyer fights for Arab editors' freedom to work

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 9

Legal moves are under way to try to force the Israeli military government to relax controversial restrictions imposed on the Palestinian newspaper editors of three of the four main Arabic language newspapers published in East Jerusalem.

Under these restrictions, the three journalists, Mr. Mamoun Sayed, editor of the daily *Al Fajr*, Mr. Akram Houry, editor of the daily *Al Shab*, and Mr. Bashir Barghout, editor of the Communist bi-weekly, *Al Tawfiq*, were all prohibited from leaving their home town of Ramallah which is in the occupied West Bank 12 miles from Jerusalem.

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three men from visiting the editorial offices of their papers, all of which were noted for their outspoken support for the Palestinian cause.

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Hope seen for the Polish economy in long term

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Poland's economic position is "quite desperate" in the short and medium term, but "not hopeless" in the longer run, according to an analysis of the crisis published yesterday.

The West and the Soviet Union, the report says, appear to have sufficient interest in coming to a compromise to rescue plan. But the piecemeal, "middle-through" solution apparently favoured by the Polish authorities, and so far followed by the banks, only adds further risk.

The report, *The Polish Crisis: Western Economic Policy Options*, by Professor Richard Portes of Birkbeck College, University of London, outlines the prospects for Poland over-coming its economic crisis by its own efforts and the approach taken by Western governments and banks.

Poland's debts, and as Western governments have now begun granting Poland new credits, the report is timely.

The deep problems of the Polish economy have not shown any signs of yielding to the new political leadership or the new distribution of power in society. Professor Portes writes, "The most plausible scenarios that can be constructed now would be at best very difficult for the Poles and at worst 'disastrous for us all, East and West'."

The report says that the Polish situation is desperate. Gross debt at the end of 1980 is put at \$24,600m (£10,250m), and the gross financing requirement for 1981 is about \$10,000m, of which \$3,500m would be "new money". It is estimated that there will be a total need for new finance of \$12,000-\$15,000m in 1981-85 period, mainly to avoid any further declines in output and exports.

"The obvious economic solution," the report argues, "is a comprehensive rationalization and reorganization of debt maturities which would at the same time ensure sufficiently good prospects to give Poland access to new finance from the market."

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Mr Sadat in Luxembourg to discuss peace move

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 9

The battle of the budget is well under way. President Reagan, like all his recent predecessors, has promised to balance the budget. This year's deficit will be anything from \$55,000m to \$80,000m, Mr. Carter's figure—\$133,000m, Mr. Reagan's figure—and the President wants to turn this into a surplus within three years.

Mr. David Stockman, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, and this month's superstar, has allowed news of the cuts he proposes to leak out. The press and other media, which were all born yesterday, describe the proposed cuts in the most melodramatic terms.

The *Washington Post* wrote that "Reagan's crusade promises to produce a year of epic political struggle unlike anything seen before in modern Washington."

Mr. Stockman is on the cover of *Newsweek* with "cut, slash, chop" written all over it. However, a quick look at his figures shows that he is proposing cuts of 3.5 per cent in next year's budget, with perhaps a further 2 per cent in 1982.

The American budget year begins on October 1, and the budget for the fiscal year of 1982 was delivered to Congress by President Carter last month, just before he left office. It proposed expenditures of \$288,000m, and a deficit of \$27,500m. With immense fanfare, Mr. Stockman has sent to Congress the news that he wants cuts of \$26,200m (3.5 per cent), with the possibility of a further \$10,000m to \$20,000m cuts to come.

THE ARTS

Changing fashions of realism between the two wars

Les Réalistes
1919-1939
Centre
Georges Pompidou

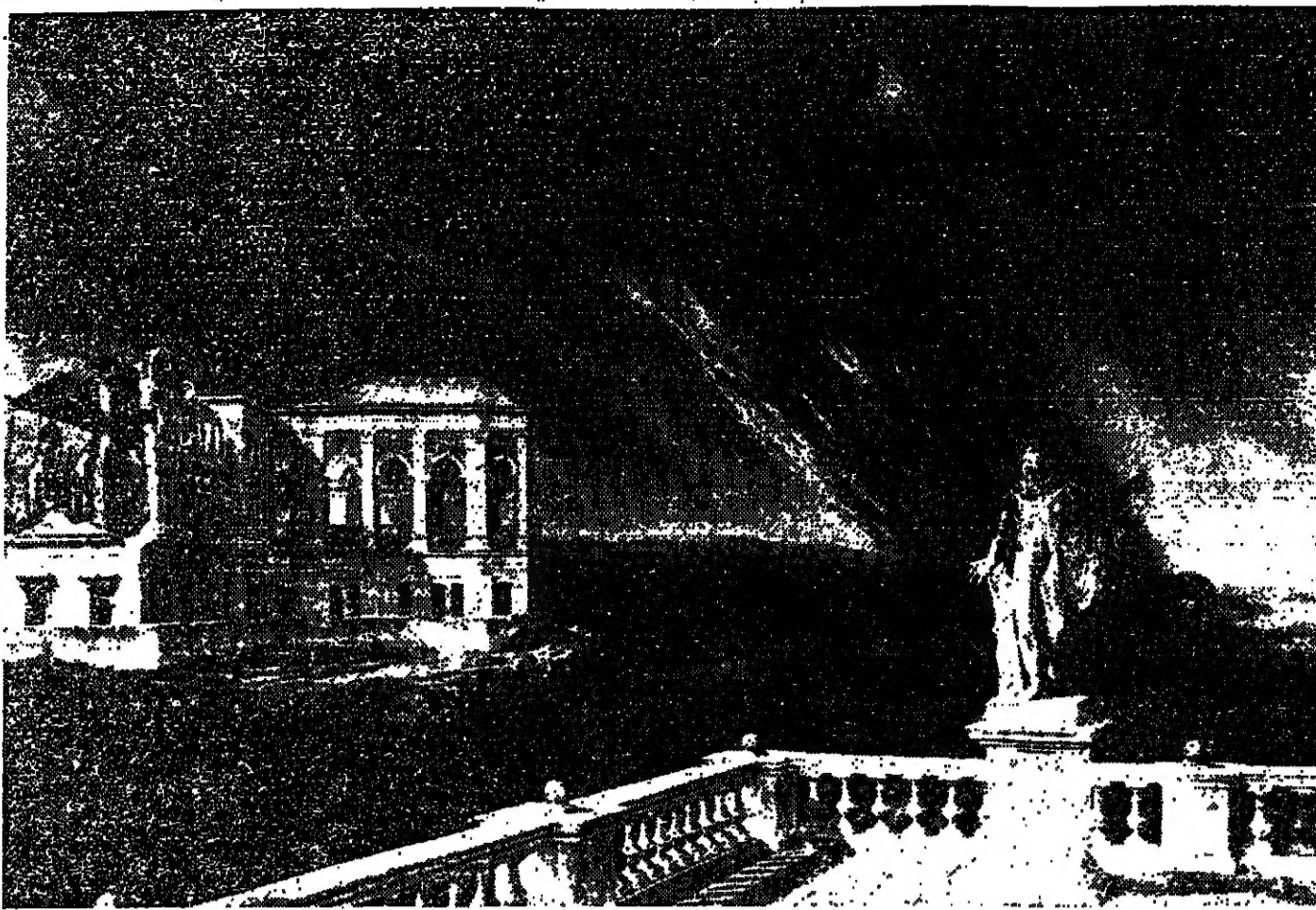
Jean Carlu
Musée de l'Affiche

Jean Fouquet
Louvre

Les Métiers de l'art
Musée des Arts
Décoratifs

Why "realism" in the plural, you might wonder. To that question at least the big Spring show at the Centre Pompidou, *Les Réalistes 1919-1939* (until April 20), provides a quick and obvious answer. It is not about just any old realism, some amorphous, undefined attitude to the subject-matter of painting, but about the long succession of mostly short-lived art movements which, between the wars, proposed and illustrated the continuing validity of some kind of directly representational art. Until quite recently it has been the habit to ignore or discount such movements, on the grounds that they did not fit in with the orthodox view of how "modern art" developed organically and individually from impressionism onwards, primarily through the various phases of the Ecole de Paris. If one supposed that Analytical Cubism was the last gasp of representational art, the last serious attempt of painters to render external physical reality, then any later attempts to approach reality by classic means had to be regarded as anachronistic, retrograde, and suited only to the debased tastes of totalitarian regimes who chose to know no better.

Since Pop Art and Superrealism attitudes have changed rather. Painters such as Hopper and Steeler, who once seemed peripheral, now are seen as central. The various exhibitions devoted all over the world in the past five years to the Neue Sachlichkeit painters of the Weimar Republic have been revelatory. And each country inevitably, in rediscovering its own recent past, has been looking again at its own artistic eccentricities: in Britain the example imme-



Carel Willink: *Château en Espagne* (1939)

diately to hand is the big Stanley Spencer show at the Royal Academy last year. All of these make it clear that, alas for neatness, realism was by no means played out as a creative force after 1918. Even in France itself a couple of big shows in the past two years have drawn attention to the powerful survival of realism during the 1920s and 1930s, a renaissance though it might be to the fashionable pundits of Paris.

So that is what the Beau-bourg show is all about. It starts coherently enough, with sections devoted to each of the major groups as it comes to Metaphysics, Valori Plastici and Novecento in Italy; Néo-humanisme, Néo-romanticisme, Forces nouvelles and Réalisme socialiste in France; Magic Realism, Verismus and Neue Sachlichkeit in Germany; Regionalism in America and so on. In all of these, though their ultimate aims and objectives vary considerably, one can see a continuing preoccupation with rendering external reality as a means of artistic expression.

Not all of the art on display is very encouraging. The Meta-physical art of Chirico after

his Surrealist period, for instance, is empty and bombastic, and even technically slipshod, to an extent which makes his brief mastery around the time of the 1914-18 war even more unaccountable. Fortunately there are other Italian painters of the period, hardly more than names these days outside Italy, who show to excellent effect: a painting like Fausto Pirandello's *The Staircase* (1934), with its ghostly mingling of partial figures ascending and descending the stairs, is astonishing in its subtlety and formal invention.

The work of the Neue Sachlichkeit group is already familiar, though some unfamiliar examples of it enliven the German sections of the show and confirm the impression left by the Hayward show that Karl Hubbuch, though not the best known, is in many respects the most dazzling and timeless of them all. Among the French Baltais (especially) stands out, but there are powerful works, more or less socially motivated, by Jean Marchand, Georges Rohmer and others, and a little corner devoted to the maverick Alfred Courmes, rediscovered quite recently

through an otherwise rather bizarre show of new French art at the Serpentine. A Czech sculptor called Otto Gutfreund makes a strongly individual mark with his twisted figures of men at work and his portrait busts. Britain is represented by, most notably, Spencer's "leg-of-mutton" nude; it is a pity that the Scotsman James Cowie, who would work very well in this context, is not included at all.

It is at about this point that the exhibition begins to fall apart. Maybe it is something to do with the wide open spaces which need to be filled, but it is hard to see the relevance of rooms of dog furniture and fittings (certainly a chair is a chair is a chair, but does that make it necessarily realistic?) and big displays of posters, architectural renderings of movie palaces and such art glass and practically anything else which was produced between the wars. The most likely explanation, though, for this sudden wrenching of the show in the direction of social studies, seems to be the organizers' horror at their own logic: which clearly demonstrates that the unmentionable Nazi official art falls naturally

into the new pattern of twentieth-century art they propose, and does not look at that part of the show there is sudden sprouting of long explanatory apologetic captions, designed apparently to make it clear that Nazi art is included for sociological reasons only. Unluckily the internal logic of art history seldom coincides with what, politically, we would like it to demonstrate.

Part of the reevaluation of aberrant French artists from the 1920s and 1930s is the renewed attention paid to the poster-artists of the period. One of the most memorable paintings at Beau-bourg is a portrait of Chanel by a contemporary, Cassandre. A contemporary, Jean Carlu, is the subject of a major retrospective at the Musée de l'Affiche (until March 23), and his powerful graphic style, as applied to marketing everything from absinthe to the Allied war effort, still has a thing or two to teach commercial artists of our own day.

London may feel a certain amount of quiet satisfaction in having originated the Pissarro exhibition now just opened at the Grand Palais after its

triumph at the Hayward; it will be interesting to see how the next, more markedly national example of British artistic enterprise, the Gainsborough show from the Tate, does when it opens just next door. I should also mention an admirable if slightly pedagogical show devoted to the fifteenth-century French painter and miniaturist Jean Fouquet at the Louvre (until April 19): at least one is never likely to see again so much of his work so enlighteningly displayed in one place.

Meanwhile—another example, as it transpires, of influence from across the Channel—the modern craft movement has hit Paris in a big way with a large exhibition under the title *Les Métiers de l'Art* at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs (until April 27). The museum has just set up its own permanent craft shop in the entrance, modelled on that at the Victoria and Albert Museum, and is pulling in the crowds, to such an extent that the show has been extended for a month, to look at a wide and catholic selection of the best in French crafts today. It is not, I suppose, possible that anybody could like absolutely everything in the show, but it would be hard for even the most cautious not to find something to respond to. I was particularly impressed by the ceramic discs of Yves Mohy, the exquisite and intricate glass of the Mondou family and the animal-shaped furniture of Gérard Rigot (a chair like that could kill your brother...).

There are some extraordinary large pieces like Pierre Appery's white ceramic *Mur No 1* which are very decidedly on the art side of craft and demand to be judged as such. It must also be said that some of the more respected names in French crafts, such as the Cristallerie Daum, come up with pieces of almost unbelievable hideousness and vulgarity, and it is a pity that the notorious French vagueness about English spelling prevents the achievement of an imaginative and finely-tuned leather binding by lettering it on the spine *Moby Dyck*. But the show as a whole is memorable and achieves an extra dimension by being cunningly related through other applications of *les métiers de l'art* to the museum collection in general: conserving the history of the decorative arts and being aware of precedent and continuity is important to the future of good for modern craftsmen to be mindful of where they are going to.

John Russell Taylor

Philharmonia/Haitink Festival Hall/Radio 3

William Mann

Now that Bernard Haitink has yielded up conductorship of the LPO, our other orchestras are seeking his services. So it was that on Sunday he conducted an all-Bruckner programme with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus.

His symphony was the unfinished ninth. When the composer realized that he would not live to complete the finale, he asked that his setting of the *Te Deum* should be performed instead.

The Philharmonia and Haitink half-respected his wish: the *Te Deum* was indeed matched with the symphony, but given before the interval, so that its C major did not further add tonal conflict to the D minor of the symphony, or the E major of its extant Adagio end.

The ninth symphony was Bruckner's serene farewell to this world. The trumpets already sound for him on the other side in that Adagio third movement, which remains the *Paradiso* of the work's Divine Comedy, resolving (in a foreign key) the tragic *Inferno* drama of the tremendous first movement, and the partly malign, partly seductive *Purgatorio* of the scherzo movement.

So, at least, was implied by Haitink's noble, unexaggerated account. The Adagio could only

be followed by a "Chor Angelorum" as it were, having been in D major, the celestial tonality of Handel's "Hallelujah" and those visionary Masses by Bach and Beethoven. Haitink sent us home with the balmy repose of the major Adagio, and the velvet euphony of Philharmonia horn and strings on their best behaviour, greatly palpitating in our ears.

If anybody wanted to conjecture how Bruckner would have ended the symphony, Haitink's blazing account of the *Te Deum* was fresh in the memory. Her were bold harmony, confident choral unisons, the consoling aspiration of the solo vocal quartet passages.

Shelia Armstrong, Alfroa Hodgson, Philip Langridge, and Gwynne Howell admirably blended with the resplendent voice of the Philharmonia Chorus, just now in top form thanks to their virtuoso master, Heinz Mendel.

The finale of Bruckner's ninth symphony would have to recede and apotheosize the D minor of its first movement: Bruckner's symphonic finales rarely do so. Better souls than may be sure of hearing it wondrous work complete serenity in the *Paradiso* Pantheon.

After such a concert as this one mere earth, less ambitious devotees of Bruckner can content to imagine how music supreme visionary has completed the most extraordinary of all his symphonies.

Singcircle St John's

Hilary Finch

Saturday's Sounds Alive concert, the second of a series of three, had a disturbing unity of purpose: nearly all its compositions for amplified voices expressed, with differing degrees of delirium, a sense of chaos and impotence, pointed more accurately by being contained within a building of such contrasting sensibility as St John's, Smith Square.

Three of the works drew their inspirations directly from poetry, the words cracking and breaking under the burden, Henry Pousset's *Mnemosyne* and *Li*, a bipartite and fragmented setting of lines from Hölderlin ("We are a sign without meaning...").

Contrapoints moodily and improvisation and shouts for consecutive simultaneous performance in variable media. This performance was perhaps less effective for choosing to precede as well as juxtapose the accomplished and often beautiful improvisations of Suzanne Flowers, with the lengthy choral-like declamation of the freely-rearranged words by four distanced singers.

The isolation and striving of the individual voice pitted against a quadrophonic pre-

corded tape of voices and literary noises in Luigi Noni's 1964 *La Fabbrica Humana* the tentative optimism of the voices of Scabla and Paris rising and curving into melodic sinking into speech, punctuated by fragmented exclamations created a potent if static image compellingly realized.

Two poems from I. Hughes's *Crow* were more conventionally projected through Sam Bach, an early minimalist crafted by voices by Richard D. Hames, much of the sum of immediacy of the imagery fused by amplification. A Bell's pleasing but unoriginal non-verbal exploration of "Imprisoned Mind" in *At a point in constant*, its recurring words and murmurs for four voices and taps fluttered like the air, was backed by the first performance of Richard Orton's *Lingua* bland investigation of external vocal techniques, which realized its somewhat tedious activity by reference to myth of Ebel.

The other premiere was Jean-Paul Cury's *Diah* phonetic, a "translation" from note to vowel of Diah's *Sometime*. The pitches repeat with a hierarchy of timbres, the idea constantly entertaining, the execution accomplished and oblique enjoyable.

upon to do as much. Despite that, *Satie* dema absolute sympathy more the fine technique, whereas Ravel both are essential. Varsano reconciled those titles in his exhilarating account of *Jeu d'eau*, which was clearly shining like the fountains (and the *li* by Henry de Régnier) prompted it. It is curious to think of Ravel submitting first movement of his *Sonata* for a competition that nobly else bothered to enter, and ing the remaining movements.

The second half began with a recital devoted to French music, not many pianists would venture to begin with a large *Satie* group, as Daniel Varsano did on Sunday afternoon. Much of this music is quiet, almost timid in manner, uncompromising in its lack of display, and offering the performer few conventional opportunities for self-assertion. In the opening *Gnossienne*, Mr Varsano was impressively exact, however, with his placing of individual notes and the balance of textures, although the final effect, inappropriately, was rather nervously subjective. He did better in the still simpler *Gymnopédies*, drawing nearer to the music's still, calm centre.

In later *Satie* cycles, such as *Les trois voix distinguées du précieux dégoût*, violence is implicit in the very restraint, as it is in a different way in the *musique* on *richer* and *spacious*. Mr Varsano was a best here, although unaffected naturalness of Fauré playing was matched by his subtle management of layered textures of Debussy's *La Terrasse des Audiences* *Clair de Lune*.

The warmth and, beyond the contained passion of Fauré nocturnes, numbers and five, brought a different atmosphere to the recital, music once richer and spacious. Mr Varsano was a best here, although unaffected naturalness of Fauré playing was matched by his subtle management of layered textures of Debussy's *La Terrasse des Audiences* *Clair de Lune*.

Daniel Varsano Queen Elizabeth Hall

Max Harrison

Even in a recital devoted to French music, not many pianists would venture to begin with a large *Satie* group, as Daniel Varsano did on Sunday afternoon. Much of this music is quiet, almost timid in manner, uncompromising in its lack of display, and offering the performer few conventional opportunities for self-assertion. In the opening *Gnossienne*, Mr Varsano was impressively exact, however, with his placing of individual notes and the balance of textures, although the final effect, inappropriately, was rather nervously subjective. He did better in the still simpler *Gymnopédies*, drawing nearer to the music's still, calm centre.

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Jazz in low spirits

Don Rendell Round House

Richard Williams

Jazz of all kinds long ago came to terms with the concert hall, but the quintet with which Don Rendell opened his Contemporary Music Network event made the modest platform of the Round House seem like some terminal beach. In a club environment, perhaps the utterly derivative nature of their music might be obscured by background noise; on Sunday, before an audience dotted about in a sea of empty seats, the group lay naked and gasping for breath.

Rendell, a saxophonist who is among the elders of British modern jazz, has in the past led several interesting groups. This one, which merely calls to mind the music heard on many Blue Note sessions of the middle 1960s, is not among them. The repertoire, a mixture of what are commonly called "originals" (a grave misnomer in this instance) and standards, provided a little stimulus that the musicians often seemed to be operating by reflex.

Rendell and his saxophone partner, Stan Robinson, have come to contrasting terms with the influence of John Coltrane, but they appeared unanimously preoccupied and unable to offer more than a few doodles. They were given little assistance

by their pianist, Pete Sabe who has a graceful touch whose quiet banality could easily be mistaken for relief that Herbie Hancock to the right conclusions 15 ago, and that there is not worth while to be added at stage.

The second half began with a saxophone quartet performed by Rendell, Robinson, Kurt (alto) and John Will (baritone). Resolutely smart, slightly saccharine discreetly muffled, it soured like an exercise for the Coast musicians of the 1950s.

The rhythm section retired and the group was joined by trumpeter, Dick Pearce, a trombonist, Paul Nieman, the evening's main event, dell's *Earth Music*, a set of eight pieces in various ventional modes: bebop, jazz-rock, blues, and jazz-blues. Once again, despite straightforward nature of composition, an air of unliarity, almost of disconcert, prevented the soloists from doing anything more than modestly literal interpretation. The sole exception was made for the bassist, B-edge, who delivered an lude in which he used his rich tone and a gently pl attack to develop a lyrical across the entire range of instrument. That apart, yon delivered by a phony during number's involuntarily provided a summary.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted yesterday's later editions

Book review

Taking Leave of God By Don Cupitt

(SCM Press, £4.95)

If Don Cupitt had been a bishop, his latest book would probably have caused the same sort of hubbub as *Honest to God*, for some have already begun to denounce its "atheism" and its "subject matter is not dissimilar from that of Bishop John Robinson's best-seller of the sixties. What is deeply moving about it is also that, rather like *Honest to God*, it is a personal testimony: "Here stand I: I can do no other."

But it is nonsense to accuse a man of "atheism" who can write: "My God is still the *deus absconditus*, the hidden God who is found at last to hide himself in the depths of the heart"; and: "God both represents to us what we are to become and shows us the way

to become it; union with God is the goal, and the love of God is the way"; and: "God is a unifying symbol that eloquently personifies and represents to us everything that spirituality requires of us. The requirement is the will of God, the divine attributes represent to us various aspects of the spiritual life, and God's nature as spirit represents the goal we are to attain."

The Dean of Emmanuel's book is surprisingly far from the arid God of the philosophers I had been warned to expect. He is no remote and ineffectual Don. Cupitt simply tries to be honest to himself and to answer the question: How can I practice the Christian religion when, in the late twentieth century, I find myself with a new cosmology, with a corresponding change in the nature of knowledge, in the way people think about all the leading social institutions, and with an "autonomous" self that has to get away from an authoritative framework imposed from without?

Many Christians who read *Taking Leave of God* will find it profoundly disturbing—more disturbing than it needed to be, for it is an "Either-Or" sort of book—Kierkegaard gets a dozen quotations—where it could with profit (and a little more wrestling) have been "Both-And". But it is beautifully written—a worthy successor of Edwin Evans's "Symbolism and Belief", forty years on. It will provoke "the faithful" to think more rigorously about what they believe, whilst the questioning unbeliever may find in Don Cupitt—who describes himself as "battered by life"—the guide he has been seeking.

One last quotation—a thought for today: "We need a spirituality to direct our freedom and make it fruitful, so that human lives can gain something of the nothing-wasted integrity and completeness of a work of art. When lives are wounded off at that way, death loses its sting."

Eric James

Marvin Gaye asserting his individuality

Although he is one of the authentic pioneers and superstars of black American popular music, Marvin Gaye has long held a reputation for unconventional behaviour, thanks to his evident distaste for authority in all its forms; so it was not altogether a surprise to discover that he has been living quietly in London, since his concerts at the Albert Hall last June, and that this journey is in the nature of a retreat from professional and personal conflicts.

During the past two years he has experienced, in his own words, a "horrible metamorphosis". Various business ventures went awry, culminating in massive demands for further internal Revenue Service, which seized his Los Angeles recording studio and other property in lieu of payment; his wife successfully sued him for divorce making further claims which forced him to record an album, *Here, My Dear*, whose profits go directly towards the settlement (with typically mischievous wit, Gaye turned the album into a biting examination of their liaison); finally, and in some ways most profound of all, the relationship with his record company suffered an apparently irretrievable breakdown.

In other circumstances, such last would probably be the least of the problems; such disagreements are, after all, not uncommon in the world of popular music. Gaye's case is different, because the company in question is the black-owned Motown Records, the most famous and fertile of all pop factories, with whom Gaye has been associated virtually since his beginnings more than 20 years ago.

Although he had served a teenage apprenticeship with singing groups, Gaye joined the fledgling Motown organization as a drummer, but it was not long before the company's founder, Berry Gordy Jr, recognized his potential and put him to work with various teams of songwriters and producers, resulting in a string of hit singles—"Stubborn Kind of Fellow", "Ain't That Peculiar", "I Heard It Through the Grapevine"—which virtually defined the development of soul music in the 1960s and which upheld Motown's proud slogan: "The Sound of Young America!"

The bond was further strengthened when Gaye married Anna Gordy, Berry's sister, such intra-company relationships were the rule rather than the exception at Motown during its early days, and were plainly a factor in the creation of the tightly-knit family atmosphere which contributed to its phenomenally consistent success.

Gaye's popular duets with Motown's female singers, notably Kim Weston and Tammi Terrell, broadened his reputation, but the death in 1970 of Tammi Terrell, which has remained the subject of speculation, affected him deeply. As



if to shake himself out of the depression, in the following year he released one of the landmark pop albums of the seventies, entitled *What's Going On*, whose adventurous treatment of social themes and extended musical forms opened up a number of possibilities hitherto forbidden to black pop artists.

Not importantly, *What's Going On* was a wholly self-determined work, thereby contradicting Motown's established production-line procedure; it was achieved in the face of considerable corporate resistance. Enormous worldwide success vindicated Gaye's judgment, but in some eyes only cemented his reputation for being a stubborn kind of fellow. Relations deteriorated as he exploited his new independence, and as other artists, like Stevie Wonder, began to follow his example.

These achievements were counterpointed, however, by his business disasters, including the brief ownership of a professional football team, the Detroit Wheels, the management of a string of boxers and ventures into the stock market, only one of which returned a modest profit. Gaye freely admits that his own nature is at least partly to blame: "I'm not the easiest of people to deal with. If I feel like taking a vacation in the middle of a project, because I need the creative stimulus, I will take it. Someone else might feel that I should stay and finish the job, but in the past I've always gone. That puts a strain on business relationships."

On the other hand, I tend to look upon myself as a race horse. This has been my argument over the years: if Secretariat is a fine horse, but she throws riders and has trouble getting into the gate, who gives a damn as long as she wins the race? You must treat

her right, put her out to grass, give her the best pasture and try to cool her off, because the object is to win. I'm nervous and highly strung, and apparently it goes with my talent. And, if I'm treated properly, I can do what I do probably better than anyone else."

A lean, languidly elegant man who talks softly but volubly, Gaye, whose adventures exploiting his ability to seem thoroughly guileless, "Gaye agrees that some of his problems stem from the transition pop singers of his generation had to make from being virtual puppets of the producers into acceptance as "artists". Tensions have arisen because the record business "still demands its quota of 'product' in the old way, making no allowance for temperament."

"I haven't had room to expand. Motown is interested in the commercial market, so if I want to do something that is not necessarily of a commercial nature, but might be, they would rather not take the chance. They want something that will hit the charts immediately."

Motown will release a new album, *In Our Lifetime*, this month, and its gestation was subject to that kind of pressure, according to Gaye. Originally conceived as *The Love Man*, and conceived as an attempt to reassert his primacy as soul music's pre-eminent sex symbol in the face of challenges from other, younger singers, it was rewritten and re-recorded until it now emerges as a musical meditation on what he sees as an approaching Armageddon. The observation that its musings are rather opaque disarms but does not surprise him, for he claims that he was not allowed to finish the project.

"I wanted to make it clearer, but I wasn't afforded the opportunity... and I do

say 'afforded' with dollar-signs behind it. The album certainly has a theme, though: I believe I do my best work when I'm thinking conceptually. But Motown felt that enough was enough. As I've indicated, we're not enjoying the best of relationships. In fact we've just agreed the terms and conditions for a separation."

So *In Our Lifetime* will be his last record for Motown? "Sadly, yes. And will there be regrets? Yes. Although I'm not fond of the record business, I am very fond of Berry Gordy, and there are many happy memories. Even the hassles were often stimulating and necessary. After all this time, though, I don't feel that the best of relationships is going to change. In 22 years there's grown to know me too well, and they think about me in a certain way, and I feel that I'm not treated with the respect I should have." Certain incidents from the past plainly still rankle, too. "There were some appalling liberties taken with projects which Tammi Terrell and I did, and there have been tears over the deaths of people I knew, but I don't feel like going into that at some point, because I'll explain it all in my autobiography, which will be very truthful."

Gaye denies that he is writing his story simply to correct perceptions given by a lurid pulp novel called *Number One With a Bullet*, published in 1974 and written by a former Motown publicity agent, Elaine Jesmer, who had worked closely with Gaye. The novel seemed to paint a barely fictionalized portrait of the daily life of Motown, with a promiscuous male singer, named Daniel Stone, but bearing a marked resemblance to Gaye at its centre. Speculation was fuelled when the book disappeared from the shelves with mysterious suddenness: soon after its publication.

"The book was squashed, actually," Gaye observes. "The movie was squashed, too. Paramount were ready to make it, right after *The Godfather*."

Predictably, Gaye maintains that he is in London because he loves the tolerance and humour of the British; he envisages returning to America at some point, but is at present "considering any offer."

including the chance to run a Third World music centre in Nigeria. His prime concern, though, is to find someone who will buy him out of his Motown contract. "I'm looking for a genuine offer from people who are really concerned about me. I want to spend the next 10 years doing my music really seriously, for a change, even if it means living on a beach in Hawaii and playing it only to my friends. That's possible, by the way. I did it for eight months before I came to London. I have a history of playing the ballgame according to my own rules; frankly, I sleep better that way."

Richard Williams

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Mr. Sussex, who farms fifty acres in East Devon, had an unforgettable Bank Holiday Monday.

In the small hours of the morning he played host to a few unexpected guests.

Altogether about fifteen members of the Cullompton Fire Brigade attended.

When they arrived, Mr. Sussex's home was ablaze. When they left, at eight o'clock in the morning, it was in ruins and in spite of all their gallant efforts Mr. Sussex, his wife and four children were homeless.

Which was something that could

not be said about the rest of Mr. Sussex's dependants; his herd of pedigree Friesians.

They were still perfectly at home in their pastures and as much in need of Mr. Sussex's constant attentions as ever.

A fact that was not lost on the loss adjuster we put in charge of the case.

He gave up his Bank Holiday afternoon to visit the Sussexs at what was left of their farmhouse.

There and then he declared the farmhouse a write-off and agreed to pay Mr. Sussex £1,000 to take care of his immediate expenses.

But there was still the problem of where the Sussexs were going to live.

If Mr. Sussex had worked in an office it would have been no problem. We'd have put him, and his family, up at a hotel.

But, as Mr. Sussex pointed out, you can't run a farm from a hotel room. His cows expect a 6.50 a.m. call for milking and calves like fires start at all hours of the day and night.

Obviously it was vital for Mr. Sussex to live where every farmer belongs; down on the farm.

Mr. Sussex himself found the perfect solution to his, and our, problem.

It took the form of a 42ft, three bedroom mobile home. He paid £1,500 for it and we paid him back the very next day.

He parked it right next to the cowshed and lived in it quite comfortably until his house had been rebuilt.

Mr. Sussex, it seems, doesn't treat farming as a nine to five job.



Just as we, and Mr. Sussex will back us up on this, don't treat insurance as a nine to five affair.

We won't make a drama out of a crisis.

We knew the cows couldn't wait for the farmer to come home.



David Bolton on the kind of political initiative Europe must take to deter aggression

How Nato can stop a drift into another cold war

As the new administration takes over in Washington it intends to adopt a more positive, coherent and predictable foreign policy which will be underpinned by increased expenditure on defence. Thus, "Republican America" seeks to clarify its interests in international relations and to counter the expansionist policies of the Soviet Union.

At this time of economic recession other members of the Western Alliance are having difficulties in meeting a real increase of 3 per cent in defence expenditure, their response to the disparity in East-West force levels and their pledge to arrest this worsening trend. In British public concern has again focused on our need for a nuclear deterrent and our ability to meet rising defence costs, to the extent that the maintenance of a maritime strategy along with land and air forces in Europe, as well as securing the United Kingdom base, is being questioned. Here lie the ingredients of misunderstanding and friction between allies and, possibly, uncertainty over the cohesion of Nato itself.

By military means, either on its own or by surrogate forces, the Soviet Union in its foreign policy has shown the dynamic of its own security needs and the apparent opportunism of a mixture of Russian national interest and Marxist-Leninist ideology. It can be argued that events in Angola and the Horn of Africa, Kampuchea and Afghanistan, with the prospect of intervention in Poland, are persuasive evidence of Soviet expansionist policies. From a Russian viewpoint it may be countered that the overthrow of pro-Soviet regimes and attempts to dis-

credit centralized government planning and control, could presage unrest in satellite states and inside Russia itself. Further, that basic western economic and military power, along with a developing China linked to Japan and the United States, pose an external threat to the Soviet Union which justifies its military strength and the use of armed forces to guarantee the security of the communist world.

Whatever interpretation is given to Soviet actions, the axiom that a military capability takes years to build-up whereas political intentions can change almost overnight, deserves emphasis. Certainly the growth and size of the Soviet military capability cannot be gainsaid; but where as the balance of East-West force levels may be well known, the rate of modernization is sometimes overlooked. In central Europe, the Warsaw Pact has an overall numerical advantage of almost 3:1 in tanks and artillery and more than 2:1 in tactical aircraft over those of Nato. Yet Warsaw Pact aircraft coming into operational service have twice the range and up to three times the payload of their predecessors. Thirty Backfire bombers, capable of attacking the UK from any direction, enter service each year, and one SS20 mobile nuclear missile, with its three warheads and range of up to 3,000 miles, is produced every five days.

In naval vessels, a new nuclear-powered Soviet submarine is produced every 13 weeks and aircraft carriers and major landingships are under construction. Afghanistan also aptly illustrated the Soviet capability to concentrate its forces when up to 100,000 troops were deployed in a matter of days.

The succession to the gerontocracy in Moscow will bring younger men to power to whom the lessons of the Second World War may not be so vivid as the more recent successes in the use of armed force. They may also consider that the risk of western interference or reaction could be minimized if pressure was applied, directly or indirectly, to the weaknesses of the developed industrialized world, such as the supply of energy or raw materials.

The problem now facing the West is how to counter such Soviet thinking as well as the military capability which gives it credence. In defining its foreign policy objectives and planning to increase its defence expenditure, fears have been voiced that the USA is yearning for post-supremacy; that the complicated problems of today are not susceptible to simplistic solutions with electoral appeal. Nevertheless, in deciding where additional defence dollars can best be spent, a change in US political intention will take time to work through to an improved military capability.

Initially, emphasis will probably be given to improving the US strategic nuclear deterrent and urgent efforts to revitalize and improve the quality of their armed forces will also be set in train. An improved capability to deploy conventional forces outside the Nato area is sufficient strength to deter or counter the Soviets exploiting any regional imbalance or instability, will also be sought energetically.

However, such a US response, say to unrest in the Middle

East, could only be met in the short and medium term by drawing-off forces and logistic support destined for Europe.

Nato is expected to make up any short-fall and the opinion in America, which holds that the Europeans are not supporting US efforts despite the benefits which accrue to the alliance as a whole, are again increasingly being voiced.

In their turn, the Europeans have been critical of American policy. Arguments over President Carter's proposal to deploy the neutron bomb in Europe then, when agreement may have been in prospect, the withdrawal of the plan; the questionable effectiveness and validity of the US response to events in Iran and Afghanistan; energy policies which appear to pay scant regard to the realities of pricing by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, all exemplify recent European irritations with the US.

Furthermore, the benefits of détente from a western European viewpoint of improved relations between the two Germanies, increased trade with the USSR and Eastern Europe, as well as at least the recognition of human rights and the need for cooperation in Europe through the Helsinki agreement, and even the geographic proximity of the Soviet Union itself, give a sharpened perspective to the mutual value of maintaining contacts with Russia.

Even more importantly, the atmosphere of détente is an essential prerequisite to reversing the leap-frogging demands for new weapon systems, both sides along with their spiralling costs, by arms

control agreements which guarantee security or stabilised and then reducing force levels. Such agreements will take a great deal of protracted hard bargaining, as exemplified by the SALT talks, and from the position of freely elected governments they must be capable of ratification. The principle of long-term goals with limited but progressive objectives and the growth of mutual confidence, would seem to offer the best prospect.

There is fear in Europe that an assertive American foreign policy with increased emphasis upon military spending will alarm the USSR and bring a return to the cold war. Thus the aim should be to exert an influence upon the US so that

the necessary strengthening in a balanced Western defence posture is achieved without, on the one hand, threatening the fundamental security of the Soviet Union, while on the other hand, constraining her expansionist aims by the West's manifest capability and political will in a manner which is calm, resolute yet not provocative. To this end Europe must be seen to be recognizing its responsibilities and playing a full and cost-effective part. A policy of containment and détente sufficient to deter aggression and military opportunism, to reassure friends and allies, but also to encourage a climate conducive to arms control agreements and increasing international confidence, should

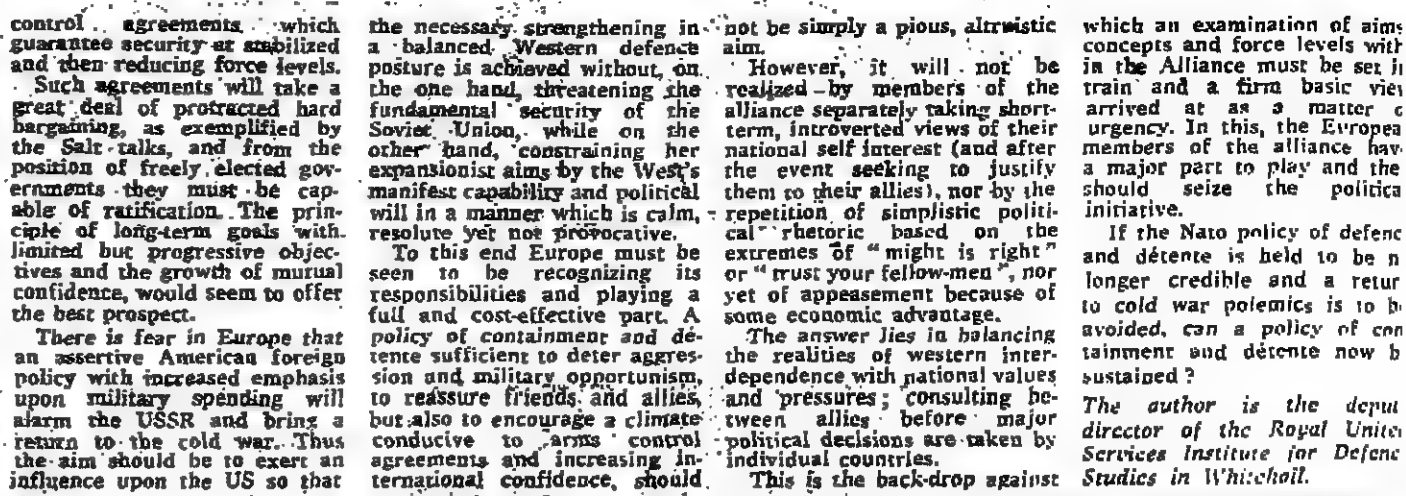
not be simply a pious, altruistic aim. However, it will not be realized by members of the alliance separately taking short-term, inverted views of their national self-interest (and after the event seeking to justify them to their allies), nor by the repetition of simplistic political rhetoric based on the extremes of "might is right" or "trust your fellow-men", nor yet of appeasement because of some economic advantage.

The answer lies in balancing the realities of western interdependence with national values and pressures; consulting between allies before major political decisions are taken by individual countries. This is the back-drop against

which an examination of aims, concepts and force levels within the Alliance must be set in train and a firm basic view arrived at as a matter of urgency. In this, the European members of the alliance have a major part to play and the should seize the political initiative.

If the Nato policy of defence and détente is held to be no longer credible and a return to cold war polemics is to be avoided, can a policy of containment and détente now be sustained?

The author is the deputy director of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies in Whitehall.



Soviet troops parading in Red Square: a justification for military strength?

The threat to Jewish survival in Mexico

When Cortez disembarked at Vera Cruz in 1521 to conquer Mexico, his company included a number of Marranos, Jews who had converted to Christianity to escape persecution while remaining covertly faithful to their ancestral religion. Some of them had been released from the attentions of the Spanish Inquisition to face the hazards of the trans-Atlantic expedition. But those who survived faced a reputation of their torments when the Inquisition followed them to Mexico and several were burned at the stake in 1523 at the first auto-da-fé to take place in Mexico City.

To elude the inquisitors, the Marranos took to the mountains, went into hiding or became nomads. Without women of their own, they married Indians who adopted some of the Jewish practices they learned from their husbands. A few hundred of those who claim to be their descendants survive in a small town called Venta Prieta which is near Pachuca and a smaller group lives in Mexico City.

Some scholars doubt the authenticity of this account of the ancestry of the Venta Prieta Jews and have speculated that they are descendants of a small Christian sect which informally converted to Judaism in the nineteenth century. But, whatever the truth about their origin, they are not accepted as Jews by the Jewish community at large since, under orthodox Jewish law, a Jew is a person born of a Jewish mother or converted in accordance with recognized principles and procedures.

In recent years, a few Venta Prieta Jews have visited Israel, returning with a greater devotion to Judaism and a knowledge of the Hebrew language which now plays a larger part in their Synagogue liturgy. A very modest structure houses their Synagogue in Mexico City where they describe themselves as the congregation of "Mexican Indian Jews". Their

connections with the organized Jewish community are minimal, less because of their doubtful status as Jews than as a reflection of the general pattern of this disunited and fragmented minority.

The Jewish community of Mexico is of recent origin, dating from the turn of the century when a handful of immigrants arrived from the crumbling Ottoman Empire. The best estimates suggest a total of 45,000 to 50,000, approximately half being Sephardi Jews from Aleppo, Damascus, Greece, Turkey and the Balkans with the other half composed of Ashkenazi Jews mainly from Germany and Eastern Europe who arrived between the two world wars.

Because they constitute such a tiny proportion of the predominantly Catholic population of 67 million, the Jews have been particularly intent on preserving their identity. They early on developed a system of Jewish day schools and, in the 1940s, 90 per cent of their children were being educated in them. However, as the general school system improved, a few of the more venturesome Jews moved out into the pluralistic society which was emerging.

Today, the percentage of all Jewish children attending the nine community schools has dropped to about 60 per cent while intermarriage, for the first time, poses a serious threat to Jewish survival. It is estimated that between 15 and 20 per cent of Jews are now marrying non-Jewish spouses.

It is a prosperous community. The indigent immigrants built successful industries and businesses, making a contribution, excessively disproportionate to their numbers, to the economic development of Mexico. That immigrant generation, which still retains control of the community leadership, remains ghettoized. Their children began to move out and entered the professions—medicine and engineering rather than law,

which was too uncomfortably involved with Mexican politics. The next generation is becoming far more integrated.

Today there are, for the first time, two second-generation Mexican-born Jews who hold important posts as under-secretaries in the present government. Anti-Semitism has never been a serious problem.

Despite activity by the Palestine Liberation Organization, the government maintains excellent relations with Israel. It sells Israel some 40 per cent of her total oil requirements and there has been no adverse reaction to the publication of the sales figures in the national press. Academic and technical exchanges between the two countries are continuous and Mexico has benefited from Israeli expertise in two areas of major need, utilization of arid zones and child welfare. Last month, the Mexican Minister of Defence visited Israel to look into the purchase of defence hardware.

The Jews of Mexico have been devoted supporters of Jewish state. But it is a measure of their loyalty to, and sense of security in, the country which has enabled them to settle and prosper that very few have emigrated to Israel. Out of the small number which has, Mr. Leon Duitzin, has achieved the distinction of the Presidency of the World Zionist Organization.

The Jews of the Mexico share the prevailing attitude of suspicion towards the superpower to the north. The local Jewish community jealously guards its independence and has responded unenthusiastically to the attempts of the powerful organizations of the United States to create closer ties. Like Mexicans generally, they fear domination by a "big brother". It was, I think, Herbert Samuel who once

observed that the Jews were like everyone else, only more so.

William Frankel

Sorry, old friend, I cannot listen...

Bernard Levin

The BBC are at present serializing on Radio 4 a dramatic adaptation of *The Good Soldier Schweik* (we shall come to the disputed question of the spelling in a moment), but although the hero is played by that admirable player of clowns, Richard Griffiths, I dare not listen to it.

Dare not? The words are not too strong, for Schweik is to me a friend so close, so beloved, and intimate, that I know that if Mr. Griffiths, or for that matter the actors playing any of the other parts—Lieutenant Lukas, Chaplain Otto Katz, the terrible Dr. Grunstein and the idiotic Colonel Schröder—should sound otherwise than I have imagined them all my life, I would be distressed beyond measure.

When I say all my life I mean what I say; I have known Schweik since 1940. The first translation (by Paul Selver) of Jaroslav Hasek's great book appeared as a Penguin Special in 1939, and it must have been one of the first books I ever bought, though how I had heard of it and why I bought it I could not interest myself in. I have long since forgotten. I read that copy until it fell to pieces; I knew, indeed I still know, huge chunks of it by heart. Penguin republished it after the war; I bought it again in 1951, and read it until that copy disintegrated too. It was reprinted in 1958, and that is the Penguin edition I still have. But in 1973 there occurred a sensational event in the life of every Schweik-lover; the book was retranslated, this time by Sir Cecil Parrott, formerly British Ambassador in Prague (and ever since, I may say, a most notable defender of oppressed lands and its people).

The reason that Sir Cecil's version was so much better than its predecessor was not that a second translator knew the Czech language so much better than the first; it was that at the time the earlier version was published Penguins simply could not put it out in full; it was abridged by something

like a third, and in Sir Cecil's version we had Schweik for the first time, absolutely complete.

We also had him unexpurgated, for apart from cutting the book down to a manageable size, the original publishers felt obliged in those days to omit certain expressions and indeed whole passages to avoid the attentions of the bluesoes and Whitehouses of the time. This incidentally provided Schweik-lovers who attended the *Lady Chatterley* trial with an extra ration of joy even amid those joyous proceedings: poor old Mervyn Griffith-Jones asked Sir William Williams, one of Penguin's directors, why the firm had not published *Lady Chatterley* with the rude bits cut out (they form only a small proportion of the work), and Sir William replied that it was Penguin policy never to start a time which incidentally was, too—the lawyer was brandishing *The Good Soldier Schweik*, which had been abridged, and trying to suggest that Sir William, as honest a man as any wilder version of the book, was being deceitful. But that was not the point at which the League of Schweik began to stuff handkerchiefs into their mouths and rock back and forth; the jest lay in the fact that we, and we alone, knew the full truth, which is that if Mervyn had read Schweik, or even opened it, he would have insisted that it join *Lady Chatterley* in the dock.

It is a book crammed from start to finish with verve, bluntness, irreverence, and a conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline, together with total contempt for authority, honesty, obedience, courage, ruthlessness, rulers, clericalism, officers and judges. Well, the complete version was even better than the cut one. Sir Cecil Parrott's is a most scholarly edition, and comes equipped (it is published by Heinemann, by the way) with elucidatory footnotes and some very useful biographical details of Hasek, who appears to have led a real

life so picturesque that it makes his great creation seem positively mouse-like by comparison. Yet I swear I do not exaggerate when I say that Schweik is a hero of comparable stature, and the glorious masterpiece in which he is enshrined is fully worthy—in deed, it is the only book I know which is to stand beside Cervantes in the library of immortals.

Schweik, when the book begins, is a pedlar of hideous mongrels which he sells (with elaborately forged pedigrees) as thoroughbred dogs to anyone he can persuade to take one off his hands. Discharged from the army earlier as an imbecile, he insists on joining up the moment the war breaks out (his theory is that the Archduke Ferdinand was shot by the Turks) and the book is an account of his ensuing Anabasis. For, of course, he is not feeble-minded at all; he uses his reputation, and the idiotic look his face invariably wears, as a means of skiving out of the appalling disasters into which he gets himself and all those who are so unwise as to have anything to do with him, chief among these being poor Lieutenant Lukas, who wins Schweik for a batman from the drunken Chaplain in a game of cards, and whose

was and what he did, you would feel irritated at the very least, and possibly downright insulted. Yet I swear I do not exaggerate when I say that Schweik is a hero of comparable stature, and the glorious masterpiece in which he is enshrined is fully worthy—in deed, it is the only book I know which is to stand beside Cervantes in the library of immortals.

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life is made unendurable then after.

The point of the book, however, is something larger. It is an assault, mounted with deadly irony and the laughs of Jove, against the Austro-Hungarian Empire and everything set in authority over it. Think of a work which combines the imagination of *Don Quixote* with the precision of Anatole France's *Penguin Island* and the ultimate benignity of *De Quixote* itself, and you will have an idea of what *The Good Soldier Schweik* is like. I am surprised that the book has become a kind of common man's bible in Czechoslovakia, a country which came into being just as Schweik was put to bed, and has since been regarded as a kind of doll yourself handbook for all rest of the century. It is curious that the tyrant, Franz Josef, who now rule Hasek's country permit it to be read there; it is less surprising that they insist on removing from all editions references to Thomas Masaryk, the father of his country and the symbol and hero of the Czech people who dream of the day when they will once more be free.

That is the work which is being broadcast in five parts by the BBC; the adaptation had been made by Sir Cecil Parrott's translation. I wish I well; may it introduce man to Schweik who until now I knew not. But, as I say, shall not listen. For forty years I have heard Schweik, with his feet to report, his wit and usually prefaces the recounting of yet another catastrophe; for forty years I have seen him his round face split in an idiot grin and the light of pure cunning gleaming behind his innocent eyes; for forty years I have loved him, for the spirit of liberty that drives him on; Hasek, when he died, had not finished the book, which was fitting, for it is impossible to think of Schweik as coming to an end. The spirit of liberty itself, he goes on for ever.

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No rest for Sunday observers

It was not because they have finally lost the fight to the battalions of wickedness that the Lord's Day Observance Society chose to hold a church service on a Monday. It was because yesterday was the 150th anniversary of their founding as our foremost band of militant saboteurs.

Last night's celebration at All Souls Church, Langham Place, W1, was not without incident. It was picketed by representatives of the forces of darkness—not the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, but the National Secular Society, who distributed cheerfully rude leaflets denouncing the LDSOS as a joke organization whose greatest contribution to civilization had been to stop Sunday trains running in Edinburgh.

William McIlroy of the NSS, who wrote the leaflet, said his society was "a militant, free thinking, humanist organization". The LDSOS has described it, rather differently, as "a persistent instrument of godless

philosophy". The future for the LDSOS, McIlroy said, was decidedly bleak; they were a joke and an embarrassment to the majority of Christians.

Behind the exchange of insults there is a deeper reason for enmity between the two bodies: under the charity law the LDSOS can campaign out of untaxed income, while the NSS has to oppose them out of fully taxed income.

William Fitch of the LDSOS immediately countered with the claim that his society was gaining in strength daily. Not only Christians were afraid of losing their Sunday; the more activities permitted on the Sabbath, the more people would have to turn out for work, to run shops and referee football matches, when they would rather be with their families.

Fitch has plenty of threats to grapple with as his society enters its 151st year. He is campaigning against the private member's Bill which proposes freer Sunday trading for food shops, and he has been active during the Football Association's discussions about Sunday soccer.

"Our success is difficult to measure, but we have managed to keep the Sunday closing pro-

visions of the 1930 Shops Act in being for 30 years", said Fitch. A final quip from the persistently godless McIlroy at the NSS: "After 150 years, how can they be content with that?"

I hear that further honour is about to be accorded upon Sir Robin Day, the recently knighted political interviewer. He has been nominated as the new chairman of the Hansard Society, the non-party body which promotes the virtues of parliamentary government throughout the world, in succession to Kenneth Baker, MP, who has had to step down on becoming one of Mrs Thatcher's ministers. I gather Sir Robin's election is more or less assured.

Reagan only 39

People who should know better, including his inauguration committee, persist in calling Ronald Reagan the 40th President of the United States. But he isn't; he is the 39th. Forty is a nice round number for the "Oldest and Wisest", as he is known to

his staff, but it's a pity they can't count.

Some 39 men have taken the oath of office, some once, twice, or even four times and some of them without ever being elected (Gerald Ford was the latest of these). One president, Grover Cleveland, had two terms, beginning in 1885 and 1893, separated by Benjamin Harrison.

For reasons now forgotten, and without any authority at all, the State Department ruled in 1945 (or so the Library of Congress claims) that Cleveland was two presidents, numbers 22 and 24.

Admittedly he was very large, but if he was double, Franklin D. Roosevelt was quadruple. If Jimmy Carter were by some outside chance to be re-elected in 1984, would he be the 41st president? Our own King Henry VI served two terms, interrupted and followed by Edward IV. So should we number them Henry VI/VII and Edward IV/V, thereby giving the six wives to King Henry the Ninth?

The Congressional Directory, which can't count, makes Reagan the 40th president. Whitaker's Almanac, which can, makes him 39th. I don't suppose

it matters much, unless you can remember who Benjamin Harrison was.

Labour knockout

The killer disease of inflation which is rocking Western economies is about to claim another victim, at a time of growing ruling class assault on both the living standards and the basic rights of the British people, not to mention a developing international imperialist attack on the essence of détente. After 60 years, the voice of Labour Monthly which expresses those sentiments, is to be stifled; its next issue will be its last.

Founded in 1921 by the veteran British Communist R. Palme Dutt, *Labour Monthly* has fallen victim to rising costs and falling circulation. Although not directly owned by the Communist Party, it has always been regarded as one of the few vehicles for serious political discussion among what might be called the establishment far left.

The penultimate issue, just out, includes assurances that the Soviet Union has no designs on Middle East oilfields, an explanation that the only interference in the internal affairs

of Poland is likely to come from Western bankers; and a useful day-by-day calendar of the disasters of Thatcherism during December. Ron Brown, the MP

for Leich and Kabul contributes an appreciation of Robert Burns.

In their own obituary notice the editors write: "In its sixty years *Labour Monthly* has fought an honourable battle and played a valuable part in the developing political processes of this century—in Britain and many other countries. The ideas for which it has striven are alive and, indeed, are changing the world."

But as one door closes, another opens. In September the Labour Party plans to bring out the first issue of its own heavy-weight political quarterly. The £1,000-a-year job of part-time editor has just been awarded to James Curran, a former Labour parliamentary candidate and now a lecturer in communications at the Polytechnic of Central London. Its complexion will no doubt be a shade paler red than the dying *Labour Monthly*, but it will do well if it lives as long.

Rugby League fans, distraught at the prospect of Eddie Waring's imminent departure from television, can take heart: there is to be even greater

coverage of this curious multifaceted spectacle that provides so much *jeux sans frontières*.

From February 22, independent television is to screen league games. The BBC having lost its exclusive franchise for coverage. Our very own Keith Macklin, a sprightly 19 and naturally a Yorkshireman, has been hired jointly by Yorkshire Television and Granada to present the selected league games. Macklin, *The Times* Rugby League correspondent for the past three seasons, will continue to comment on the game for BBC radio. It sounds as though he will really have to master his "oon and onders" to fulfil this dual role.

My favourite form of pick bank, the Dimple Hot water bottle, goes on sale again next week after a three-year absence. It occurred in a dispute between the distillers and the EEC over prices of Scotch in Europe. In the old days you could save £3 in expenses by buying a Dimple bottle; now, as the only one which will put through the rock is a 12.50, you will be lucky to save £7.50.

Alan Hamilton

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and the
political risk,
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Stock markets	
FT Ind 480.9 up 0.6	FT Gilts 69.17 up 5.87
Sterling	
\$2.3405 down 35 points	Index 104.1 up 0.3
Dollar	
Index 99.1 down 0.2	DM 2.1372 down 15 pts
Gold	
\$516.50 up \$14	
Money	
3-mth sterling 13 1/2-13 3/4	
6-mth Euro \$ 171-172	
6-mth Euro \$ 161-162	

Inflation still on
downward trend
despite surge in
wholesale prices

By Melvyn Westlake

Factory-gate prices rose in January by the largest amount since last spring as companies pushed through a spate of new year price increases.

The bunching of these rises caused the official index of wholesale prices to jump by 1.4 per cent in January, compared to monthly rises in the index of 0.5 per cent or less since last summer.

However, the wave of increases in January was not enough to disrupt the longer-term downward trend.

The rise of factory-gate prices in the last 12 months, of 11.25 per cent, was the lowest year-on-year increase since early 1979, and compares with a peak rate of 19 per cent at the beginning of 1980.

Last month also proved to be a quiet one for increases in industry's costs.

The index of fuels and materials bought by industry climbed by 2.6 per cent. This was two-and-a-half times the monthly increase recorded in November and December.

But here, too, the longer-term trend still appears to be downward. Over 12 months the rise in industrial fuel and material costs has come down to 8.75 per cent from almost 30 per cent a year earlier.

The main reason for the industry's higher costs is the fresh round of oil price rises. Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries raised the price of their crude oil from January 1 and Saudi Arabia bucked its own price increase to November 1.

Increases by the Opec members—which led to a rise in the price of North Sea oil—have more than offset lower prices for other materials bought by manufacturers.

Much of manufacturing industry saw the prices of its materials, other than crude oil,

fall by 1 per cent in January. The strength of sterling contributed to this; but the weaker tone of the pound more recently could prevent this happening again in February.

Whitehall remains optimistic that the downward trend of wholesale price inflation will continue for some months. This view will help to maintain the improvement in the level of inflation in retail prices.

The latest retail price index will be published next Friday. In recent months it has fallen faster than had been expected, and there is considerable confidence in some quarters that it could be down to single figures by the end of the year.

The main source of price inflation for some time has been the public sector, where the price of goods and services has risen by more than the general level of inflation. Energy, telecommunications and transport prices have all risen quite sharply, and more such increases are in the pipeline.

The Chancellor no doubt will take this into account in his Budget.

While it seems very likely that the excise duty on alcohol, tobacco and petrol will be increased broadly in line with inflation, it is unlikely that the Chancellor will want to go further than that.

Separate figures published yesterday for the volume and value of retail goods show that the value of retail goods generally rose by 13.8 per cent in 1980, compared with 1979, while the volume of goods rose by only 0.6 per cent.

The volume of sales was down a little in December, but business in the final quarter was broadly unchanged compared to the second and third quarters, reflecting a rise in retailing, rising unemployment and an increase in individual savings.

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Insurance staff set for rises of 11-14 per cent

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Staff in the insurance industry are likely to win pay increases of between 11 and 14 per cent this year, which would be well above the single figure settlements being urged by the Government.

Negotiations, which resume next week, covering more than 180,000 clerical staff in the main high street banks are expected to be influenced by settlements reached so far in insurance companies.

About 250,000 people work in insurance and with pay aspirations in several large companies due to start later in the year, current pay negotiations can only be seen as an indication of the way in which settlements are likely to move.

The companies are apparently arguing with union negotiators that the insurance sector is not immune from the pressures on the economic

situation, while the unions have been pointing out that the industry has been profitable for several years.

Royal Insurance, which negotiates with Mr Clive Jenkins's Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) recently imposed a 14 per cent pay deal for about 9,000 staff after a union ballot which rejected the offer.

In the ballot ASTMS made it clear that if the offer was rejected, it would result in industrial action, but for this 60 per cent of those entitled to vote would have to give their support. The vote fell short of that figure and in view of the impasse, the company decided to impose the settlement, which runs from January 1.

Negotiations at Eagle Star, covering more than 6,000 members of the Eagle Star Staff Association, have been referred to the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) after rejection of the company's offer of 11 per cent from January and a further 3 per

cent from next July, which will be compounded.

There have been threats of industrial action by the normally moderate staff association, although these have been held in abeyance pending the outcome of the ACAS talks. The company has said that its offer is "final" but staff association negotiators agree that they have a mandate for industrial action from the ballot.

At General Accident, ASTMS and the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff are bargaining their members on a basic 12.5 per cent offer linked to improvements in some fringe benefits such as London weighting.

Guardian Royal Exchange has offered 10 per cent from January 1, with increases in London weighting and other improvements in benefits and the union there, the Banking Insurance and Finance Union (BIFU) representing about 6,000 staff, is consulting its members, after making an appeal to

the company for an improvement, which was rejected.

Other large claims from the unions are believed to be in the pipeline. Norwich Union has received a claim for 20 per cent increases, improved holidays and a shorter working week, and a similar claim is expected to be submitted by Bifu for its members at the Phoenix.

In addition to the basic increases, unions in insurance companies are mostly seeking improvements in benefits not available to many workers in other areas of industry, such as fees for membership of private health insurance schemes.

Negotiations in the insurance sector are being carefully watched by banking unions which have rejected an 8.5 per cent offer from April 1. Bifu and the Clearing Banks Union are to reopen negotiations on Wednesday, a day before talks start on a Bifu claim for 20 per cent with the Scottish clearing banks.

Next Ford
car engine
may have
plastic parts

The first stage of an inexpensive plastic car engine has been developed by Ford. It could be used in the next generation of Ford engines which will go into production in about four years time.

Instead of using expensive aluminium for the inlet manifold, the new engine uses hard plastic material, developed jointly with two other companies.

The material is 25 per cent cheaper than aluminium.

"We think we can claim this as an important world first and it is all British," a Ford spokesman said.

Ford, which has been working with Fibreglass, part of the Pilkington group, and with RTR Permial, a Gloucestershire firm of plastic moulders, believes that all external parts of the engine could eventually be made of plastic.

British exports surge

British exports to the Middle East oil-producing countries were up 31 per cent in value last year compared with a general rise in British exports of only 16 per cent.

Caparo's rival bid

Caparo, the private investment company of Mr Sir Paul, has launched a £14.5m cash bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading, The West Midlands conglomerate. The terms are worth 55p a share—5p more than a cash offer from Hanson.

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Dorset oil search

The search for oil in Dorset has spread to the west of the county. British Gas already believes it has discovered the country's largest on-shore oil field, on the Isle of Purbeck, in east Dorset, and is to conduct vibroseis surveys around the village of Beaminster.

Drug trade record

Pharmaceutical manufacturers set a record £52.9m surplus of exports over imports, according to provisional figures issued by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry yesterday. Exports totalled £74.5m, an increase of 16.7 per cent on the previous year, while imports were 4.4 per cent down at £22.5m.

Perkins lays off 400

Four hundred men, about 5 per cent of the workforce, are being laid off this week at the Perkins diesel engine plant in Peterborough.

Higher NCB limit

The Government is to increase the National Coal Board's external financing limit by £4m next year to £88m to take account of increased payments under the pneumoconiosis compensation scheme.

Telecom delay

British Telecom has agreed to have some of its exchange equipment delivered later than planned to reduce its immediate expenditure by £100m.

Wall Street lower

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 5.12 points down to 947.18. The S&P 500 was 1.2882. The E was 0.529750.

ICL losses
on agenda
at NEB talks

By Sir Frederick Wood

Sir Frederick Wood, the new chairman of the National Enterprise Board, is to meet Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State, later today to discuss the ICL losses.

Sir Frederick, who will work part-time at the NEB, will continue as chairman of the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC).

One of his main tasks will be to improve the coordination of the two organisations where there is a potential for technology transfers.

ICL, the country's leading computer company, which is in severe financial trouble, is likely to be discussed.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, told the Commons yesterday that he had received no formal request from ICL for financial assistance. ICL, which is forecasting a deficit of £50m this year, was experiencing the same problems as many other companies—a shortage of orders and higher costs.

There is speculation that the Government could be forced to involve the NEB or the NRDC or possibly both to overcome the short-term problems at ICL.

The NEB could be ordered by the Industry Secretary to provide temporary financial support for ICL.

But the political problems are considerable, because investment in ICL was among the disposals made by the NEB in its operation (which would reduce the impact on the public sector borrowing requirements) would provide one means of helping the computer company over its present difficulties and would be politically preferable to any foreign links.

Steel union urges state
help for private sectorBy Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Government is being urged by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the largest steel union, to help the private sector after pumping hundreds of millions of pounds into the state-owned British Steel Corporation.

Pressure for public funding to rescue the state-owned steelmaking has been put on Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry by union leaders, who fear that several thousand jobs are at immediate risk in British companies.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the ISTC, said in a letter to Sir Keith: "British producers have now reached the stage of desperation which can lead to the closure of a number of works in the foreseeable future, unless some solution can be found to give the private sector the assistance necessary to combat the unfair situation that they are now being faced with."

The ISTC leader, who is responding to private contractors from a number of private steel producers, argued that the continuing strength of the pound and high interest rates made it very difficult for manufacturers to retain export orders for which they had successfully competed in the past.

"In Europe, many subsidies and advantages are obtained by the private steel industry, none of which are enjoyed here," he said. Concessions were available on energy costs, transport costs, help with research and development and cheap loans for development.

The Government is expected to outline a £5,500m aid programme, embracing writing-off losses of up to £3,500m and the level of aid being channelled into the British Steel Corporation which could infringe a Community decision agreed a year ago.

Representatives of the private companies, which are increasingly worried at damage caused to them by the BSC subsidies, hinted at a possible reference to the Commission when they addressed a meeting of the Conservative Industry Committee last night.

The warning, came after Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, had told the Commons he would make a statement on the BSC's survival plan (involving a further cash injection of £100m) in the next few days.

It reflects the measure of concern at the alleged bias being shown by the Government

able future, unless some solution can be found to give the private sector the assistance necessary to combat the unfair situation that they are now being faced with."

The ISTC leader, who is responding to private contractors from a number of private steel producers, argued that the continuing strength of the pound and high interest rates made it very difficult for manufacturers to retain export orders for which they had successfully competed in the past.

"In Europe, many subsidies and advantages are obtained by the private steel industry, none of which are enjoyed here," he said. Concessions were available on energy costs, transport costs, help with research and development and cheap loans for development.

The Government is expected to outline a £5,500m aid programme, embracing writing-off losses of up to £3,500m and the level of aid being channelled into the British Steel Corporation which could infringe a Community decision agreed a year ago.

Representatives of the private companies, which are increasingly worried at damage caused to them by the BSC subsidies, hinted at a possible reference to the Commission when they addressed a meeting of the Conservative Industry Committee last night.

The warning, came after Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, had told the Commons he would make a statement on the BSC's survival plan (involving a further cash injection of £100m) in the next few days.

It reflects the measure of concern at the alleged bias being shown by the Government

Labour 'will
renationalize
Aerospace'

By Michael Clarke

Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Chancellor, gave a warning yesterday that the Labour Party would renationalize British Aerospace when it was returned to office.

He called the decision to put the state-owned aerospace industry under a new management a "warning" and said it would "in no way assist the production of exports of the products of this great industry". He warned investors that they would not make "unjustified capital gains at the expense of the British taxpayer."

The traded options committee's plans to start dealing in shares of British Aerospace suffered a setback yesterday when Home Government, the stock exchange, lodged an official complaint with the Stock Exchange quotations committee.

Home Government's objections to dealing in British Aerospace were thought to be twofold.

First, it believed it was technically impossible to deal in the shares on the traded options market before they were fully registered on April 5.

Secondly, it is understood that part of the Government's terms to the four merchant banks and three brokers for the issue of the 100 million Aerospace shares included the necessity for a smooth launch. There was to be no speculation about the possibility of renationalization.

The matter has now been turned over to the full Stock Exchange Council. This means that dealers in the traded option market will be unable to conduct any business in the shares when they are launched next week.

In the meantime, Home Government remained confident that the new shares, to be offered at 150p, would receive a warm reception despite the complaint.

Financial Editor, page 17

600 jobs go as Ansell's
brewery closes

By David Hewson

Ansell's, one of the country's largest breweries, is to close with the loss of 600 jobs as a result of many years of recurring industrial conflict, Allied Breweries, the owners, said.

The brewery, based at Aston Cross, Birmingham, has been closed since January by a strike of production workers. The 1977 dispute involving Ansell's staff resulted in the Transport and General Workers Union being temporarily suspended from the TUC.

Allied now faces the problem of supplying its 1,300 Midland pubs from its own excess capacity at nearby Burton-on-Trent and by buying in beer from other brewers.

Mr. Matthews, Polaroid, vice-chairman of the TGWU branch covering Ansell's, said yesterday: "So far as we are concerned, the battle is only just beginning. We will be doing our utmost to close down the

entire Allied Breweries operation in the Midlands."

Last month Ansell's demanded the introduction of a four-day week for production and distribution staff. The move was rejected by the TGWU workforce which went on strike.

The dispute was made official last week when the company issued a notice to dismiss. Sir Derek Holden-Brown, vice-chairman of Allied, said yesterday: "Only about 28 of the 1,000 on strike signified a willingness to return. It was that, coupled with the outcome of a mass meeting of employees, which demonstrated to us beyond all doubt that there was only one course open to us."

"The closure of the brewery is a terrible blow to the people of the area who have reached the point of no return."

A company statement said that the TGWU branch representing employees at the brewery had been "totally uncooperative."

Taiwan group after Decca

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Taiwan, one of Taiwan's largest companies and a leading Far East manufacturer of electronic goods, is close to concluding the purchase of the long-making Decca radio and television interests in Britain, including a television assembly plant at Bridgford, Shropshire, from Rascal Electronics. It is expected to pay about £1.5m.

Taiwan has made considerable progress in the United States market for television sets but has yet to be as successful in the European market. Assembly facilities in Britain would give Taiwan the European foothold it needs. The Bridgford factory produces around 100,000 sets a year, mostly colour.

The deal with Rascal would be only for plant and the other

Decca fixed assets, including a laboratory in Bradford, Yorkshire.

But Rascal, which has seen several earlier possible deals come to nothing, is for the moment only confirming that talks for the sale of Decca interests are "at an advanced stage". Among the companies which have shown interest were the Victor Company of Japan (JVC), Britain's Binatone and France's Thomson-Brandt.

Commercial paper rates now are up to four per cent below the prime rate and business loan demand at banks is bound to continue to decline until the gap is narrowed.

This is placing pressure on the banks to cut their prime rates swiftly.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises	
A/Can Alcan	57p to 111p
Burnett B'shire	15p to 908p
Elsborg Gold	14p to 181p
Guinness Feat	15p to 131p
Kinross	55p to 620p

Falls	
East Dazga	5p to 51p
Electrolux	12p to 825p
Elitoni	8p to 176p
Incape	11p to 415p
Husky Oil	10p to 682p

THE POUND	
Bank	Bank
buys	sells
Australia \$	2.07
Austria Sch	37.20
Belgium Fr	11.88
Canada \$	2.87
Denmark Kr	15.39
Finland Mk	9.88
France Fr	11.88
Germany DM	5.19
Greece Dr	118.00
Hongkong \$	12.70
Ireland Pd	1.39
Italy Lit	2495.00
Japan Yen	502.00
Netherlands Gld	5.64

Mr Coppola pledges his own property to keep the cameras turning
Film maker gambles on a happy ending

Five hundred workers at Francis Ford Coppola's Zentropa Studios have agreed to continue working on *One From the Heart*, his new film, even though they are not being paid. This film is at the heart of Mr Coppola's fiscal problems.

It started out as a simple story of love and jealousy set in Chicago, but by the time he began shooting, the story had moved to Las Vegas, become what is described as "a surreal fantasy" and acquired a budget of \$25m (£10m).

Of this \$25m was swallowed in recreating Las Vegas on half a dozen sound stages, complete with neon-drenched boulevards and a facsimile of the gambling town's airports.

He had hoped that Metro-Gwynn Mayer and United Artists, his distribution partners, would help him out.

"AH I actually needed was

"It does not really take place in Las Vegas, but in its own emotional landscape, for which Vegas is simply a metaphor. So we had to create the totally artificial environment. If we are in trouble financially, it is my own fault."

Playing God comes expensive. Mr Coppola's crisis erupted when \$8m from tax shelter investors was withdrawn, leaving him struggling to meet his weekly payroll. To keep things running he pledged \$3m of his personal property to secure bank loans at a minimum of 21 per cent interest so he could carry on without declaring bankruptcy.

He had hoped that Metro-Gwynn Mayer and United Artists, his distribution partners, would help him out.

"AH I actually needed was

\$5m," Mr Coppola said. "I have \$30m in assets (from his real estate holdings including a vineyard) but I can't touch any of it without \$6m to pay off my bank loan. I simply have a problem with liquidity and cash flow."

If he sounds bitter, he says it is because he feels he is on the verge of a breakthrough which could revolutionize the communications industry.

Calling the film factory he bought less than a year ago for \$6.7m "the world's first electronic studio," Mr Coppola said that *One From the Heart* would be the first electronically produced movie. Video equipment will be attached to film cameras and each scene automatically coded and stored electronically, making possible virtually instant editing.

"It allows the film to be shot in five weeks and released in two months and while it is extremely expensive to set up, it will mean that films will be infinitely cheaper to make in the future," he said.

Mr Coppola said the new film would be "completely different from anything you have seen before, outside of *Lady and the Tramp* and *Snow White*."

Playing it safe has never been his style. Once before, in 1978, he mortgaged all his personal property, including his home, to raise enough money to finish *Apocalypse Now*, which cost \$31.5m and has finally turned a profit and grossed more than \$200m. But it is doubtful if he has ever come closer to closing

GESTETNER HOLDINGS LIMITED

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at 11.00 a.m. on 26th March, 1981 at Gestetner House, 210 Euston Road, London N.W.1, for the purposes of:

1. Receiving and adopting the report and accounts.
2. Declaring the final dividends recommended in the directors' report.
3. Re-appointing Deloitte Haskins & Sells as auditors of the company until the conclusion of its next annual general meeting and authorising the directors to fix their remuneration.
4. Passing the following resolution to be proposed as an ordinary resolution, special notice having been given pursuant to sections 142 and 185 (5) of the Companies Act 1948.

THAT Mrs H. Gestetner, O.B.E., a director retiring by rotation, who has attained the age of 70 years be and is hereby re-elected a director of the company.

Holders of share warrants to bearer who wish to attend or be represented at the meeting without warrants should deposit with the company's registrars, Barclays Bank Limited, Registration Department, Radbroke Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 9EU, not later than seventy-two hours before the meeting, the certificate of a Banker, Solicitor or Stockbroker that such warrants are held to the order of the registrars.

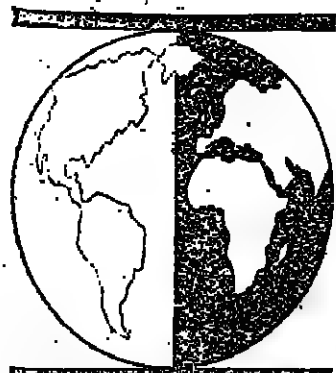
A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote for him. A proxy need not be a member of the company. To be effective such proxies must be received by the registrars not less than forty-eight hours before the time fixed for the meeting.

Directors' contracts are available for inspection at the registered office until the date of the meeting and at the place of the meeting from 10.45 a.m. until its conclusion.

41 Fawley Road, London N17 9LT

29th January, 1981.

By order of the board
J. A. BARNETT
Secretary.



EEC inquiry into fluid catalyst dumping

The European Commission has opened anti-dumping proceedings against American exporters to the EEC of catalytic cracking fluids, which are used in the refining of crude oil.

The Commission has evidence based on complaints by British and Dutch companies that silicon oxide and aluminium oxide fluids are being exported to the EEC at prices between 34 per cent and 61 per cent below their home price.

The Commission says that from an average catalyst imports into the EEC in 1977 the level reached 1,010 tonnes last year, depressing prices and threatening the survival of the European industry.

The American exporters will be given 30 days to offer an explanation of the price differences. If these are not satisfactory, the EEC may impose an anti-dumping levy.

Orders slowdown

French producer prices rose at an average monthly rate of only 0.6 per cent between October and early January, but French industrialists feel an acceleration to a rate of 3 per cent spread over January and February is likely, the national statistics institute said. Only 15 per cent of industrialists said they were working at full capacity, compared with 28 per cent a year before.

EEC aid for Eire

The European Investment Bank has granted the Republic of Ireland a loan of £25.5m to help finance telecommunications and water supply projects. The loans carry a 3 per cent interest rate subsidy, but the bank gave no details of the exact terms.

Yugoslavia loan

A consortium of Swiss banks has submitted an official offer to Yugoslavia for a medium-term loan of Sw Fr 200m (£43.5m). Part is to cover Yugoslavia's balance of payments deficit, but over 50 per cent will be for financing Swiss export contracts.

Australian coal pact

Six Japanese steel producers have reached an agreement with the Thampier Mitsui Coal Co of Australia to import 3.3 million tons of high-grade hard coking coal a year for 14 years beginning in October, 1983. The coal will be supplied from the riverside mine in Queensland.

China visit

Mr Saburo Okita, Japan's trade representative, will travel to Peking to confer with senior Chinese officials on problems over the contracts which China has cancelled because of a shift in its economic priorities.

\$175m for Seat

Seat, the Spanish car manufacturer, said in New York it has signed a loan agreement for \$175m (£74.8m) with 33 international and United States banks. The eight-year credit carries a margin of 1 of one per cent above the United States prime rate and is guaranteed by Spain's Instituto Nacional de Industria (INI), the government holding company. INI is the majority shareholder in Seat.

S'Africa gold sales

South African gold sales in January were 65,000 ounces less than total output. Figures for gold holdings show a rise in total gold reserves to about 12 million ounces in January from about 12.5 million in December.

More Danish orders

New orders for Danish industry excluding shipyards in December, rose 9 per cent at current prices compared with a year earlier and a 2.1 per cent decline in November.

Italian output slumps

Italian industrial output, seasonally adjusted, fell a provisional 6.4 per cent in December, after a 3.9 per cent November rise.

Dutch prices rise

The Dutch cost of living index rose 6.8 per cent to a provisional 137.9 (1975 = 100), in the year to mid-January, compared to 6.7 per cent in the year to mid-December.

Toyota link denied

Toyota has denied reports that it is planning to begin a joint car production venture in Spain and is negotiating with Seat, the Spanish maker.

Price rises slow

The rise in French retail prices is expected to slow to an annual 12.5 per cent in the first quarter this year from 13.6 per cent in the whole of 1980.

Swiss price index

Switzerland's consumer price index rose by an annual 5.1 per cent in January after 4.4 per cent in December.

W German prices up

West Germany's cost-of-living index rose 0.8 per cent in January, 5.5 per cent higher than a year ago.

Area has 'all the skills as well as big names in the components industry'

West Midlands bid for Nissan plant

The West Midlands, heartland of the British motor industry, is making a determined attempt to attract the proposed £200m Nissan car plant to the region. It has already selected three flat 800 acre greenfield sites and is preparing to send a delegation to Tokyo within three weeks.

Leaders of the county council have asked for an urgent meeting with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, and expect this to take place early next week.

They will point out that with unemployment in the region now over 12 per cent compared with the national average of 9.8 per cent, 100,000 redundancies last year and 40 per cent of all short time being worked in the West Midlands, an excellent case can be made for a government-aided project such as the Nissan plant to come to the area.

Councillor Alan Hope, leader of the Conservative-controlled council, said yesterday: "This is the most natural place in Britain for a car plant. We have all the skills required on the doorstep, together with all the big names in the component industry such as Lucas and GKN".

He said the sites chosen met all the criteria laid down by Nissan. They are at Essington, north of Wolverhampton and close to the M54; Manor Way, Halesowen, adjoining the M5 and Walsley near the Sutton Coldfield bypass.

All three are at present restricted for agricultural use, but as Councillor Hope said: "My council is the planning authority and has the last word. There will be no problem over changing their use for industrial purposes".

None of them is in a designated development area and so would not qualify for special government assistance. This would seem to put the West Midlands at a serious disadvantage with South Wales, the acknowledged frontrunner in the race.

But civic leaders are determined to rectify this when they meet Sir Keith by insisting that the region's unemployment problems are now so acute that the Government would be justified in giving equal aid to a West Midlands site under section 8 of the Industry Act.

They claim that doubts about the industrial relations record of West Midlands carworkers are exaggerated and in any event are improving as recent big votes

against strike action have shown at BL's Longbridge plant.

They also point to the infinitely worse strike record of the satellite car plants which Midlands manufacturers were forced by government pressure to set up in development areas on Merseyside and in Scotland.

Datsun UK, the privately owned import company handling all Nissan motor products, said yesterday that it is receiving up to 60 letters a day and dozens of telephone calls from people who want to offer their services. They include big construction companies, component suppliers and trade union officials.

Nissan has said that its team will examine all possibilities before choosing a site. The team has still to be set up, but it is reliably reported that McKinsey and Company, the American-owned international management consultants have been retained to coordinate the work.

In the meantime, the Invest in Britain Bureau at the Department of Industry is acting as the receiving house for all correspondence.

Clifford Webb



"Hover-mail" service. The world's first regular mail-by-hovercraft service was launched yesterday by the Post Office. It operates between the Isle of Wight and Southampton.

About 100 mail bags a day can be carried across the Solent at speeds of about 60 mph, taking just seven minutes to cross one of Britain's busiest stretches of water.

Apart from the speed advantage—the hovercraft crosses the Solent about seven times faster than the ferry—the new service is more reliable in foggy conditions.

The service is being given a one-month trial and if it is successful it will become a permanent addition to the mail operation.

Above: Captain George Bottemo (right) watches mail being loaded at Ryde, Isle of Wight.

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W Germany leads on Gulf order

From John Huxley
Bahrain, Feb 9

British hopes of taking a lead role in the construction of the £450m Bahrain causeway have almost disappeared.

But United Kingdom contractors and suppliers are optimistic that when the contract is finally divided into manageable portions, they can win sizable sub-contracts.

The project, which is seen as one of the last big construction jobs in the Gulf, will link the island of Bahrain to Saudi Arabia. It has been under consideration for about 20 years.

Government ministers said here today that talks being held with consultants and World Bank officials were expected to enable the clients to name a lead contractor within the next few months.

A consortium led by Royal Bos Kalks, of the Netherlands, and including Cleveland Bridge and Engineering (part of the Trafalgar House group), is among those being considered for the lead role. But it is understood that it is not among the front-runners. The local favourite is Hochtief of West Germany.

Several British companies have been chasing the contract for the 16-mile causeway. Among the earliest to drop out was Tarmac, the Wolverhampton-based road-building and engineering group, which was part of a consortium led by Mr Adnan Khushoggi.

Last year there were two British-led groups in a list of 20 competing for the contract. One was all-British, comprising Costain, Taylor Woodrow and Redpath Dorman Long (part of British Steel).

The other was led by John Howard, the Kent-based contractor, and included Sir Five McAlpine as well as Japanese and American companies. Both groups dropped out of the race, in which it was becoming increasingly expensive to compete, late last year.

Meanwhile, British plant makers hope to win supply contracts for new £160m petrochemicals complex here.

As one of the major publishers

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The power of Telecom

From Mr J. O. Stanley

Sir, The letters of Mr Findlay and Mr Isaacs only partially expose the problem posed by the existing Post Office Act and the new British Telecom communications Bill in that it specifies that any individual or company which uses British Telecom's services and acts for a third party for business reasons and at the same time uses non-PO supplied equipment, ie, computers, VDUs, etc, is in breach of the exclusive privilege or monopoly. If this clause is to be rigorously enforced, it would mean that a large number of companies and individuals are in breach of the law. Presumably, when the Bill is passed, they will all have to be licensed. It is unbelievable that a Conservative Government

should be giving such Draconian powers to British Telecom which must ensure that Britain takes a last place in the information technology revolution.

Unfortunately, most businesses which are in breach take the view that they will continue to break the law and pay no attention to the rules and regulations. This may be acceptable as a policy today, but when Mr Sean takes over in 1984 he may seek to make these conditions work and apply them arduously. If he does, we shall certainly have arrived at Orwell's "Thought Police" in a big way.

Yours faithfully,
J. O. STANLEY,
Chairman,
Air Call Communications,
176-184 Vauxhall Bridge Road,
London, SW4 1DX.
February 2.

Effects of Nissan plan on industry

From Mr J. Wright

Sir, I note with regret the wide-spread cynicism with which some factions have greeted the Nissan company's plans for opening a plant in Britain to assemble Datsun motor cars.

I note also this time with delight, *The Times* editorial (January 31) that "there is no reason why a Nissan/Datsun investment here should be seen in any way as being different to, say, the investments by Ford and General Motors", continuing "indeed... the Japanese manufacturer would be making a far larger percentage of its cars in this country".

As a retailer of said vehicles, who has suffered years of politically induced shortages and limitations justified and encouraged by BL and Ford management, perhaps these same people will now come out with unreserved expressions of appreciation to Nissan.

If, however, this is not forthcoming, we are to assume that the howls of anguish from these so-called "British" manufacturers was in fact, a political smokescreen attempting to distract the public (and others) from the true position of Britain's vehicle industry.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WRIGHT,
Triad Garages Ltd,
Escount Terrace,
Goole.
February 2.

Conversion and the credit card

From Mr S. Proctor

Sir, After reading a letter from Mr A. H. Fell (*The Times*, January 19) I decided to write to my credit card company—Access—to see if I could find out why there is a double conversion of money when buying abroad with your credit card.

Well, today I have received their reply which states that this situation occurs when the card is used in Eastern block countries in Europe or perhaps some Middle or Far Eastern countries. Reason? Because they insist on full settlement in United States dollars, which, therefore has to be converted into pounds sterling to debit the credit card's account. Sometimes, I understand, these countries do not follow this procedure, but generally they do.

Why Mr A. H. Fell's double conversion occurred when he went to France and bought goods there, I cannot say, but dare I suggest that he now uses an Access card when in France?

Yours faithfully,
S. PROCTOR,
Blagdon,
Tipton Lane,
Bromley,
Kent, CT10 2TG.
February 5.

Four years that upset the balance

From Mr J. E. O. Arnold

Sir, Mr William Shepherd's (January 23) recent splendid letter to you reminds me that I recently received the accounts of a well-known British heavy engineering company which disclosed the following figures:

With a workforce 30 per cent less in numbers receiving total remuneration 30 per cent more

than the much greater workforce four years previously, and a profit of nearly £3m turned into a near £1m loss, despite turnover increased by nearly 40 per cent, it is not a classic example of the blind ignorance and greed of present-day trade union leaders to which Mr Shepherd draws attention?

J. E. O. ARNOLD,
Middlefield,
Colby Glen,
Nr Castletown,
Isle of Man.

Opinions divided on calendars

From Mr A. C. Jarrold

Sir, Mr R. O. Leaver seeks a standard horizontal or vertical layout for calendars (February 5) but unfortunately does not give us any idea as to which he prefers.

We have recently investigated the preferences of a large number of people and found opinion to be equally divided between horizontal and vertical layout of the dates.

As one of the major publishers

of calendars sold through the retail trade we would welcome opinion on the demand for a standard layout but our present conclusion is that there is no strong feeling either way and we continue to design our calendars more with an eye to overall appearance, usually with a pictorial element, and legibility.

A. C. JARROLD,
Jarrold Colour Publications,
Norwich, NR3 1TR.

Computer aids Welsh small firms to find local industrial services

The Polytechnic of Wales is using a computer to help companies find local industrial services in the area.

It is providing an industrial service for local businesses, financed by grants from groups including the EEC, the Manpower Services Commission, the local council and the Welsh Development Agency.

The creators of the service said: "The development of a simple-to-understand and use computer information system for local businesses is a task and cost out of starting up or expanding a business".

The computer system has been designed to provide through a data bank details of the products produced by companies in the mid-Glamorgan area.

The information is processed by a DEC computer, and the college believes that it is able to provide much of the information which is necessary for local companies to expand.

So far the project has cost £200,000 and there are more than 3,000 different products listed, all of which are produced locally.

The polytechnic hopes that the system will grow to cover more companies in South Wales. The latest development is providing a particular attraction. This is a "capacity register" which tells companies what spare machinery, tools, equipment and general "capacity" is available in the area.

There are 200 companies on the list which is growing by about 40 names a week and it is hoped that by the end of next year the file will have grown to about 700.

At present 1,500 companies receive details from the capacity file, increasing over the next year to 8,000.

The polytechnic does not quote prices of hiring machinery but leaves it for negotiation between the parties concerned. At present, capital equipment worth between £30m and £40m

Technology News

is listed and is expected to grow to £150m.

The polytechnic said: "It means that anyone with a need for innovation can get it designed, a prototype built, and mass-produced without having to buy a single piece of machinery. The problems which kill off 95 per cent of new ideas do not arise—for example the cost of raising money to buy machines and factories. The drudgery of sorting out day-to-day production problems do not occur."

Optical fibres enterprise

Optical fibres are undoubtedly being established as one of the transmission media of the future. The strands of glass the width of a human hair are able to carry several hundred times more signals than conventional cabling.

To tap the market a new organization has been formed to combine United Kingdom and United States expertise. York Technology has been set up specifically to supply instrumentation for development and control of optical fibre communications.

The British arm of the company will be based in Winchester, Hampshire and the American side will operate from Princeton, New Jersey.

One estimate puts the size of the world market, which is based primarily in Europe, the United States and Japan at more than \$2,000m (£855m) by the end of this decade.

York Technology intends to become involved in all aspects of the field. Staff will contribute to conferences and will visit optical users in laboratories and factories.

"There is a full understand-

ing that the only real way of making a contribution to this young industry is to become part of it in each country where there is significant activity," the company said.

Britain, America and Japan have all been testing optical fibre cabling to assess its potential.

New British computer pen

A new British invention called Telepad enables the user to write characters with a pen directly into a computing, communications, telex or word-processing system.

The unit is the invention of Salford University and the software was prepared by the Cranfield Institute of Technology, backed by ABS Computers of Woking, part of the Trafalgar House Group.

The Telepad looks something like the kitchen "memory board" used for writing shopping lists. It uses a specially adapted pen on a surface the size of a sheet of foolscap.

It is being marketed by CTS Recognition which marketed earlier versions in the United Kingdom.

The Telepad is able to recognize a full range of alphanumeric characters and the information which can be transferred through a sheet of paper automatically appears on a compact screen. This indicates if characters have been accepted.

The creators are hopeful that the pad's sensitivity could be a big selling point, for example for authenticating a signature on a cheque.

Mr John Bendall managing director of CTS Recognition said: "None of the other systems can cope with paper thickness of more than a few sheets and, in one case, paper sizes larger than A5. Furthermore Telepad is tough enough to use on the factory floor".

Bill Johnstone

Extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. Neville Clifford-Jones, for the year ended 27th September, 1980.

I said in my statement last year: "I am not implying that we are in any way immune to a major downturn in the construction industry, but because of the counter-cyclical effect of our various activities, together with our wide geographical spread and because of the nature of our major activity, hire, which normally holds up well in a recession, we are at least cushioned to some extent from its worst effects".

This has indeed been borne out in that we have again achieved record profits despite some slowing in the second half and despite very difficult conditions in some parts of the group.

This is a good performance, but I am sure that in the deepening recession we face an unprecedented challenge even to approach these profits in the current year.

Cash Flow

In spite of these prospects it should be remembered that we have particular defensive strengths, especially to do with cash flow. There is one item of

Year in Brief

	1980	1979
Group turnover	£139,549	£112,343
Group trading profit	19,368	16,953
Group profit after interest and before tax	16,283	14,514
Group profit after tax and minority interests	11,817	10,365
Shareholders' funds	58,009	45,034
Return on shareholders' funds measured by group profit before tax	27.7%	29.6%
Earnings per share measured by group profit before tax	40.1p	36.4p
Earnings per share measured by group profit after tax and minority interests	28.8p	27.5p

cash flow which does not show in the statement of source and application of funds, and this is the depreciation provided on all our working stocks of plant and equipment used daily in the ordinary course of our business. The reason it is not shown is that a major part of this figure, running to many

millions of pounds a year, is actually required to replace lost and damaged equipment in normal trading conditions. Nevertheless, in bad times, it is not necessary to replace equipment immediately and this can generate a strong cash flow fairly quickly.

Operating Companies

In reviewing our operating companies, I would particularly like to mention certain highlights of the year's results: the strong trading performance of Scaffolding (Great Britain) Limited in both its main divisions, contracting and building equipment; the excellent showing of SGB Export Limited in increasing its direct exports by eighteen per cent despite the strengthening of the pound; the sparkling results of one of our smaller companies, Peter Cox Limited, in both its building restoration and preservation divisions; in overseas companies, the excellent result of our joint venture in Saudi Arabia and of our South African company where profits were nearly quadrupled.

Such a good result in the prevailing climate reflects great credit to all employees of the group and the board's sincere thanks go to them.

Copies of the Annual Report, including the full Chairman's Statement, are available from The Secretary, SGB Group Limited, Micham, Surrey CR4 4TD. Tel: 01-640 3393

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 11.30 a.m. on March 17th, 1981 at the Waldorf Hotel, Aldwych, London.



مكتبة الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The next hurdle for gilts

With the impression gaining ground that the Government will now hold M.L.R. at its present level until next month's Budget, there is little left to the gilt-edged market to go for yesterday. All eyes will now be firmly fixed on the January banking figures due out this afternoon.

As far as the wholesale price figures for January went, there were relatively sharp increases in both raw material and factory gate prices. The 1.4 per cent rise in the latter was not especially bad for a month that traditionally sees the introduction of new year price increases.

The 2.6 per cent increase in input prices, however, represented the second largest increase in consecutive months. Although the rise in oil prices was the major factor, that is an explanation, not a comfort. The more important point, perhaps, is that the increase would have been that much more but for sterling's strength against the dollar.

Those advocating a lower sterling exchange rate should not forget that there is no escaping the fact that a price of some sort will have to be set against any potential benefits in terms of competitiveness.

Meanwhile, foreign exchange markets were generally quieter yesterday. Dollar interest rates edged a notch and Morgan Guaranty brought its prime rate down from 19 1/2 to 19 per cent. The Bundesbank's move to drain liquidity in German markets last Friday had little impact on Deutsche mark interest rates, however.

Consortium banks

Nordic's lead on CCA

A nasty dent has been knocked in the consortium banks' case for not publishing inflation-adjusted results by the decision of Nordic Bank to do just that. Nordic, which incidentally counts the present chairman of the Association of Consortium Banks as its managing director, says it decided to publish current cost account irrespective of what the figures showed. In the event it has not fared too badly. The historic cost pretax profit of £12m drops only to £7.1m and the dividend is covered.

Nordic's argument for publishing, by interesting contrast to the refusal to do so a week ago of its close rival Scandinavian Bank, is that it does not think the figures will in any way damage its business. It is hard to disagree.

On a historic cost basis it achieves a 20 per cent growth in profits and is earning a respectable 13.2 per cent return on shareholders' equity. It also has four powerful Scandinavian banks as its shareholders.

But this is not the whole story. The essential case for banks not producing current cost accounts is that if the revised figures show losses the confidence and support of depositors would be eroded. Nordic's figures do at least justify the view that most consortium banks are currently loss-making on an inflation-adjusted basis.

While Nordic's profits do not look too bad they would have been £1.5m lower had the bank complied fully with the relevant accounting standard SSAP 16. This is because in contravention of the standard (but with the full support of its auditors Arthur Andersen) it has taken full credit for the inflationary decline in the cost of repaying its loan capital. On an SSAP 16 basis the dividend would have been uncovered to the tune of £1.1m.

This matters because Nordic has a much higher proportion of loan capital to equity — 19 per cent — than possibly any other consortium bank. It can therefore show a proportionately larger gearing adjustment — £7.1m in its favour — than most others will be able to do. On this basis only the exceptionally profitable would have avoided current cost losses last year.

The damage to the cause of non-publication is now probably irretrievable, however. Two or three other banks are planning to publish CCA figures as well and it will not be long before depositors instead of worrying about the current cost results, will wonder what those who do not publish have to hide.

Indeed, the clearing banks with presumably just as much to fear from any loss of depositors' confidence seem to bend over

backwards to point out that their CCA profits are barely adequate to maintain their capital base, an argument we are likely to hear put even more forcibly if the windfall profits tax idea looks like becoming a reality.

● The Stock Exchange has something of a dilemma on its hands following the complaints by Hoare Govett, one of the brokers to the British Aerospace issue, about the proposed inclusion of the shares in the traded options market.

Clearly traded option dealers see BA as tailor-made to put some zip into its otherwise rather pedestrian list of blue chips given the interest building up in the shares and the rationalization factor. But although Hoare is citing technical problems in trading in BA shares it seems just as clear that those handling the issue are worried that the options business could add to the underlying price volatility during the crucial launch period.

While it is understandable that the Government should wish the issue to pass off without any adverse publicity about City professional making killings, this is just the sort of argument the traded options market has been trying to dispel since its inception.

Central Manufacturing Caparo shows its hand

Spurred on by the Takeover Panel, Caparo has finally launched a 55p a share cash bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading, topping the Hanson Trust cash offer by 12 per cent and the share exchange offer by about 5 per cent.

Considering the modest improvement over the Hanson bid which CMT rejected, it is no surprise that Caparo, which already has a 22.5 per cent stake, failed to get agreement on its own terms despite lengthy talks with CMT over the weekend.

Fending off Hanson, CMT pointed to net assets of 79p a share and — after losing money in 1979-80 — a big recovery in profitability in the year to next July as well as a resumption of dividends of 4.28p gross. Some of the assumptions behind the profit forecast looked rather optimistic but all the same it seems likely that CMT will try to ward off this latest offer as well.

The important question, though, is whether Hanson will return with a higher offer. It bought most of its 13.3 per cent stake in CMT at 85p so will be reluctant to sell out and take a loss. Hanson has also taken an active interest in resuscitating CMT and like Caparo is keen to acquire its industrial services division.

However, as Hanson has shown in the past, it does not like raising its offers and with CMT closing at 54p yesterday, the market is clearly not betting on Hanson's generosity.

● Allied Breweries' decision to shut down its troublesome Ansell's operation cast further gloom yesterday over a cheerless beer sector. Significantly, however, Midlands rival Wolverhampton & Dudley added a couple of pence on the reasonable assumption that this group and Bass's M&B could profit when Allied customers are confronted in the local by alien brews.

It is also significant that the sector has seen a little selective interest of late after a long period of marked under-performance which had seen Allied itself fall 25 per cent, Guinness by almost a third and Bass by over 10 per cent.

After a year in which production dropped 3.8 per cent despite the "recession-proof" theory and ahead of a Budget which will almost certainly put greater tax burdens on an industry which has suddenly become highly price-sensitive, this may seem irrational.

But although Allied, due to report in April, has yet to pass the test, the sector has not produced any dividend cuts to date and for that reason alone has yet to lose its "defensive" tag.

There is also a feeling that after a year in which higher duties produced a lower yield thanks to the production drop the Government will not wish to kill the goose with a swinging increase, although a higher take from gaming machines could be just as painful for the big groups.

Self-regulation: getting the chemistry right

Hugh Stephenson

The Committee of Lloyd's continues to stumble onwards in its attempt to bring that insurance market's self-regulation into the twentieth century. The attempts to turn the eminently sensible recommendations of last year's Fisher Committee into practice have proved more difficult than might have been supposed. The whole process highlights the fact that for those whose instincts are against statutory regulation, if it can possibly be avoided, the price of self-regulation is eternal vigilance.

The forces of inertia in the process of reforming self-regulatory systems are almost insurmountable. But the whole history of the regulation of financial markets is that the drift towards increasing statutory regulation is a one-way movement. The only way in which it can be slowed, or stopped for a period, is for those involved in self-administered regulation permanently to be (and to be seen to be) actively pressing for higher standards.

When the Wilson Committee reported last year, its chapters on the regulation of financial institutions made all the right points about the strengths of self-regulation and about the aspects of it that were essential if it was to command general respect for any length of time.

Self-regulation only works where "the club" has real authority and powers over its members. (This was one of the main points of the Wilson Committee's report.) It is not as if such disturbances happen only in Iran, where they could have been foreseen, or Central America, where instability is legend. Arguably the biggest shock to an important sector of American business in the last six months came in the form of a model parliamentary democracy — the October 1979 seizure of the Trudean government.

brought out a programme to nationalize the United States dominated oil industry. If Canada can be classed as a country where there is a high political risk, it does not leave much hope for the rest of the world.

It is perhaps for this reason that companies are for the first time trying to create departments which will assess, quantify and monitor political developments in the countries where they operate. They are trying to measure and anticipate political problems, in the same way that financial forecasts in a business take account of the state of the company's own cash needs but the expected growth and condition of the economy in which it operates.

If such skills can be developed it might mean that companies will no longer be surprised when things "blow up" in foreign countries — that they will learn to anticipate and manage political problems, as opposed simply to reacting to them.

Oil companies and the mineral extracting business have a long history of operating in politically sensitive areas and clashing with the governments where they operate. So their political analysts depend on a wide range of sources. But a study by a group of American academics recently published by the independent non-profit making New York Conference Board suggests that companies which have previously enjoyed good foreign relationships — consumer goods manufacturers, pharmaceuticals companies, chemicals manufacturers and even synthetic fibre producers — are beginning to wish they were more in touch.

So, joining Exxon, Gulf, Conoco and the other oil giants, are more widely based multi-nationals like Ford Motor, United Technologies, manufacturer of the Pratt and Whitney jet engine and the company whose Secretary of State Mr Alexander Haig was until recently president, Continental Group, which rival to Metal Box in the packaging business, and Xerox. Worthy of mention, too, are independent consultancies which prepare and sell political analysis, such as Frost and Sullivan and Business International, both in New York, and Business Environmental Risk Index in Los Angeles.

For companies to create political analysis departments makes good sense. It clearly ought to be cost-effective, because even the smallest of national huge sums tied up in overseas installations, contracts and the like. Companies are finding that it is not that simple, though. Collecting information is not the problem — quite the opposite. In fact, as most managers complain, that they are swamped with material. The problem is to sift this material, assess which political trends will have an impact on the business and translate these concepts into management decisions which will attract top management's attention.

This may be easy enough if there is a coup or violent revolution, but it is a lot harder when on the surface things appear to be calm and when narrow-minded members of the board are convinced that they have a "feel" for a particular country and therefore disregard any reports which suggest that all may not be well. This is a heavily centralized problem in which local subsidiaries are given little autonomy and lack the flexibility.

The irony is that coups happen rarely, even in these days, and anyway such changes of government often matter little if they are essentially a palace revolution or, conversely, if by then conditions have already deteriorated.

Events which have the biggest impact on companies are often much less dramatic, as for example when governments seek to change the rules on

behaviour of the Takeover Panel has in the past been exemplary, the Committee of Lloyd's much less than satisfactory and the Council of the Stock Exchange improving from a lowly base.

Finally, the persistent administration of high standards requires the regulatory body to have at least a certain minimum level of permanent staff to give continuity to the efforts of part-time committees and subcommittees. But, while Wilson was strong on the important principles of self-regulation, it was a little less sure in its detailed practical recommendations in this area. In part, this uncertainty was the result of the actions of others. The Wilson Committee sat from the beginning of 1977 until May 1980. While it was in session, the Governor of the Bank of England took a strong initiative and twisted institutional arms in order to set up the Council for the Securities Industry. That was in March 1978, though it took most of the rest of the year before it really got off the ground.

Earlier, in February, 1977, there had been established the Joint Review Body, bringing together the Bank of England and the Department of Trade at senior official level. This body was the focus for policy and administrative decisions affecting both the securities markets and the capital markets in general.

As time passes, it seems increasingly clear that the pattern of these supervisory and reviewing bodies is less than ideal. The Council of the Stock Exchange is a jealously autonomous body. Yet in an undefined way the Council for the Securities Industry is set above it, with powers to influence but not command.

In the other areas covered by the work of the CSI (the merchant banks, the investment trusts, the insurance industry, the accountants, the clearing banks, the Confederation of British Industry, the issuing houses, the pension funds, the unit trusts and others) the direct authority of the Council is even more insubstantial. Only the Takeover Panel is anything like a wholly-owned subsidiary.

If the CSI is to improve its image and make for itself a permanent and useful place in the scheme of things, it will need to extend both its authority and its scope of operations.

It is, of course, a matter for judgment how far and how fast it is wise to push a voluntary development of this sort. However, time is never on the side of the friends of self-regulation. After a period when the Stock Exchange had substantially improved its self-regulatory reputation, last summer's "dawn raids" and the Stock Exchange's own unsatisfactory report on the Consolidated Gold Fields episode rekindled all the cynical assumptions about the Exchange being a club that would protect its own kind.

Institutions like the CSI can develop from tentative beginnings. If, however, it is to become the accepted "umbrella" authority for self-regulation of the City (and the securities industry in particular), while individual markets continue their own existing brands of self-regulation under its shadow, it needs to press consciously in two directions. First, it needs a broader membership and, secondly, it needs a rather more vigorous public image.

The membership question raises problems. The CSI is already a large body. It is, however, dominated by the chairman of all the City trade associations that it has in membership. The inevitable result is that in its deliberations most of the members act as mandated delegates representing vested interests.

There is nothing wrong in an organization constituted and operating in this way. Most public bodies, after all, are of this sort. It is, however, not the right chemistry for an actively inclined regulatory body. Above all, it does not encourage a public impression of openness and objectivity.

Given the history of the CSI, it would be wrong to suggest any major change in the existing pattern of its membership. The wider public interest in the activities of the securities markets is at present represented by three lay members. The least that should be done at this stage is a substantial increase in the number of these lay members.

An extra injection of expert and regular questioning of the system in the top body would greatly increase the chances of the self-regulatory system surviving substantially intact into the next decade.

Can the multinationals measure political risk?

'American management training is based on the idea of a global economy with common standards throughout the corporate sector. Local political difficulties fit uneasily into the framework.'

reparation of profits, suddenly require local participation in management or demand local assembly of complicated manufactured goods. All these can transform the economics of a subsidiary.

Nor are changes necessarily for the worse. A Third World government may be prepared to grant generous investment incentives or a local monopoly to a multinational prepared to invest on its shores, in which case the plum may well go to the company smart enough to spot the mood and get in there first. It is clear in this area at least that skilled political assessments can help to give a competitive edge.

The problem in this age of scientific management is that companies do not know how to handle the art of political analysis. It cuts across disciplines and operating divisions and it has no recognized place in the management hierarchy. Understandably, there is a wide diversity of approach.

The most common, and perhaps the most potentially troublesome, is to rely on the management of a local subsidiary to keep head office informed of political developments. But this ignores the fact that the nationals will have their own political prejudices and may also be reluctant to appear disloyal or to run down their own country.

On a more practical level they may worry for their own future if they put criticisms into writing which may get back to their leaders or if they paint too black a picture which might prompt the parent to pull out or at least not to expand. Nor

do they want to get a reputation for "negative thinking", which is easily done, as head offices, like Cleopatra, appear to dislike the bearer of bad news.

Further complicating matters is the American tendency to switch expatriate managers rapidly from one country to another, which means that while they may be able to give an objective assessment they are rarely sufficiently integrated into the community for this to be perceptive. So there is a vacuum which is filled when the chief executive makes a flying visit to the subsidiary and talks to a few political leaders. His conclusions then become company policy.

"In practice," the director of a computer company said, "it comes down to whether my prejudices about a place are stronger than his prejudices."

A further question concerns who should do the job. Because it is a new art, companies are still sceptical about it, so they rarely allocate a top executive. But, by putting someone junior in charge, they make it easy to dismiss his reports as naive or showing lack of experience and as a result the department loses credibility.

"It is a question of insight and authority," says the vice-president of a pharmaceutical company, "noting the common reservation. Unless I can get people with sufficient insight and authority based on their experience with this company — an assessment unit really would not have much value."

There is a problem of organization. Typically someone in the treasurer's department will keep track of foreign currency movements; someone on the strategic planning staff may look at long-term political trends; and a third person in corporate finance may assess political risks in so far as these affect the expected rate of return on investment in different countries.

There is much in common between these three functions, but the amount of coordination is likely to be minimal, as pulling them all together would tread on too many toes.

In the cases where senior personnel have been put in charge of these operations, it has often been for the wrong reasons — so that they no longer block the main management channel — or, as with former public relations executives, because they are noted for their skill in getting on with different department heads, a quality which overrides reservations about their knowledge of politics.

It is perhaps not a surprising tendency therefore for companies to use outside analysts to overcome the internal problems of credibility and accountability. But there is little so far to suggest that such firms know enough about either the company or the countries concerned to provide analysis of high enough quality to affect decision making. If anything, it serves to undermine the value of the discipline.

Perhaps the biggest problem, though, is that identifying political trends makes business even more complicated, by introducing a host of vague and unquantifiable concepts. Much American management training is based on the idea of a global economy with the best business being those which are organized on a global basis, with common standards throughout the network. Local political difficulties fit uneasily into this framework and, in the short run at least, it is still too easy for companies to ignore emerging political changes rather than face up and adapt to them.

Anthony Hilton

Business Diary: Figuring it out • Hell hath no fury...

If the public feuding between Roland "Tiny" Rowland and Sir Hugh Fraser has cost House of Fraser shareholders an estimated £2m, the total bill for Fraser's fighting off Lorrho's £158m takeover bid could be substantially more.

Leaving aside the fees of stockbrokers Cazenove and merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, a long-awaited revaluation of the group's 111 stores plus Harrods is costing the group another £6,000 or so a day since it was commissioned seven months ago.

This juicy plum has fallen to estate valuers, Conrad Riblat, advisers to the House of Fraser for many years and now fashioning the bargepole with which Fraser will attempt to fend off the overseas trader.

Estate agents rarely discuss the vulgar subject of fees, but the minimum laid down as a guide by their own professional body recommends 0.25 per cent of the total revalued figure for most of the freehold properties which make up the bulk of Fraser's fixed assets.

Unofficial estimates put the value of those fixed assets at £460m, although the Fraser board stresses that the valuation is not yet complete. Some in the City estimate the total figure to be nearer 350p a share, or £327m, which would increase Conrad Riblat's fee to £8,227 a day.

Last January net asset backing per share was 162p. When the final figures come out, assets backing the share price could be worth between 310p and 350p, more than twice the price which Lorrho is offering.

Some say that he should not have kept a lady waiting, others that he had it coming anyway. Whatever the reason, the future is not as bright as it was for Lloyd Axworthy.

Axworthy is Canada's Minister for Employment and Immigration and, until now, a contender for the leadership of the Liberals when Pierre Trudeau, Canada's Prime Minister, steps down — possibly two years from now.

Like Trudeau, Axworthy is variously described by commentators as a young and good looking "ladie, judge for yourself from the official photograph I reproduce here) and is indisputably ambitious.

Unlike Trudeau, however, he got on the wrong side of Doris Anderson, the novelist and journalist, that she resigned from her £46,000 a year job as president of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

It was all over her wish to hold a national women's conference on the constitution this month. Axworthy said that it should, he postponed, as it would otherwise collide with a cliffhanger of a Commons debate on Trudeau's plans for unisex constitutional reform.

● The directors of Leigh Carter Warehouses in Essex are having a lot of fun at the expense of the Price Marking (Bargain Offers) Order 1979 and competitors who are seeking devious ways around it.

The order seeks to ban misleading bargain offers by specifying the sort of price comparisons that cannot be made. The effect, in the furniture and carpet trades



Doris Anderson

Mrs Anderson refused, but her council sided with Axworthy and voted to put off the conference until May. Mrs Anderson thereupon resigned.

For Axworthy it was a case of winning a battle but losing the war. Few would now give him much chance of winning the Liberal leadership. Party faithfuls would be scared of alienating the women's vote. Axworthy himself admits that it has hurt his career.

In her two years as council president Mrs Anderson emerged as a battler for women's rights, particularly economic rights. She criticized a



Lloyd Axworthy

system in which working women are paid on the average about 10 per cent less than men and campaigned for the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.

She championed the right of bank workers (mostly women) to form unions and pressed for government retrenching to help women reenter the workforce after raising families.

Mrs Anderson, who is 55 and is supporting two sons, says that she means to stay in public life. The last time she stopped working, she said, "I almost went out of my mind with boredom."

Price — the price we would charge for the horrendous pink body buys, and "90 per cent off NYPM" refers to "Next year's price maybe."

Leigh says that its local trading standards officer has told it that its advertisements are "quite within the law because retailers can advertise any sort of special order price or after sales price without having to justify them."

● Mike Henderson, managing director of J. J. Haig & Co., tells me (over an appropriate dram) that there is both good and bad news about Britain's favourite moneybox.

This favourite I take to be the characteristic three-sided Dimple Scotch bottle, which is I remember held up to £40 worth of sixpences and about as much in threepenny bits.

The good news is that Dimple 12-year-old goes back on sale in this country on Monday after a three-year absence.

The bad news is that the bottle, although the same shape, has a narrower neck, so that of the new-fangled decimal coins it will take only "half pence" — about £7 worth all told, which by the time you have saved it up, would not even buy you a Dimple bottle full of Dimple.

DCL, Haig's parent group, withdrew Dimple from the United Kingdom market after the EEC objected to its being sold wholesale at 33p a bottle more in Europe than in the United Kingdom.

Haig was reluctant to scale down this price, which covered the costs of European agents, and because the then Price Commission could not bump up the United Kingdom price.

But the Price Commission is now no more and, Henderson says, there is a market here for luxury Scotch even at £11 a time. Presumably, the children of parents who can afford that sort of money do not save their pocket money anyway — they probably invest it.

Ross Davies

Nordic Bank

Highlights from the Consolidated Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1980

	1980 £'000	1979 £'000
Profit before Taxation	12,006	10,005
Share Capital and Reserves	53,579	48,359
Total Capital Funds	137,325	135,462
Deposits	1,251,578	1,040,083
Loans and Advances	832,218	759,217
Total Assets	1,441,202	1,227,062

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Shareholding Banks
Copenhagen Handelsbank Copenhagen
Den norske Creditbank Oslo
Kansallis-Osake-Pankki Helsinki
Svenska Handelsbanken Stockholm

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary's office

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Three-week account starts quietly

Prices held up reasonably well on the first day of the three-week account yesterday, despite firm hints that a cut in the Minimum Lending Rate will be delayed until the Budget.

Most of the activity came from speculative buying and special situations, with much of the strength sapped from leading equities by the group of economic results due this week. January's rise in the wholesale price indices of 1.4 per cent was at the top end of the worst forecast figures. This swayed both gilts and leading equities to close a quiet day at easier prices.

Gilts, resigned to the Budget for the eagerly-awaited cut, opened cautiously, down £1. Longs recovered from the initial £1 drop, to ease back to £1.10, lower at the close, helped by one 1 per cent reduction in prime rate by the United States bank, Morgan Guaranty, to 19 per cent. Shorts reported two-way trade during the day, with prices slipping back after the price indices figures. With the new Government, £1,000m top still in hand, shorts closed £1.6 to £1.7 down.

Gilts are looking to today's banking figures for further evidence that inflation is under control. The retail price index figure is announced on Friday.

The FT Index, down 2.1 points to 478.8 at noon, recovered to close at 480.9, up 0.6 points on Friday's close.

After a cautious start, leading equities ended the day easier, but with a firm undertone, though the market is still thin. Heavy Swiss buying in Dunlop has renewed speculative interest and boosted the price to 4p above the year's low, at 51p. Some 3m shares are believed to have changed hands at 51p. Increased speculation

that Bowater has struck lucky with its oil interests added 7p to the shares at 199p.

Elsewhere in the sector, blue chips shed a couple of pence. ICI gave up 2p to 294p. Glaxo dropped 4p to 264p. Unilever fell 4p to 456p, but BCI added 4p to 370p.

Electricals were not able to keep the upward trend set in Friday's after-hours trading. Many of the leaders, such as GEC, Racal and Rank went ex 1p or so easier as there was little investment buying reported.

Press comment boosted MK Electric 9p to 193p and Electronic Rentals added 4p to 99p.

Is Newarthill about to sell off its 6 per cent of William Press and allow in a possible bidder? Yesterday the share price of Press rose 3p to 33p. The prospect also appeared attractive to Newarthill where the shares rose 13p to 355p.

on news of reorganization plans. Otherwise, GEC dropped 3p to 633p and Plessey was unchanged at 295p. STC, Unitech and Parnell saw no movement.

Electronic Machine went unchanged at 49p after interim results. Muxhead added another 2p to 103p on continued bid speculation.

Little investment buying was reported in engineering where prices ended again on an easier level. An optimistic view was taken of financial backing prospects for Dupont and shares added 3p to 10p. Otherwise, Brown gave up 2p to 71p, GKN dropped 1p to 143p and Vespene yielded 2p to 96p. Powell Duffryn were able to add 4p to 249p.

News that Caparo has finally come forward with a counter

bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading sent CMT up 3p to 54p—5p above the cash price of 49p offered by Hanson Trust last November. Shares in Alcan, the British offshoot of Canadian Alcan Aluminium, returned from suspension more than doubled at 111p. The Canadian parent offered 120p a share for 22 per cent of its subsidiary, valued at £12.2m.

Argyll Foods returned to the market at 120p from suspension price at 79p followed the Oriel acquisition. After Savoy Hotel's plans to sell off some rooms, it gained 6p to 122p. Speculative buying added 7p to 112p at Edward Jones, Owen Owen rose 7p to 131p and Peters added 10p to 110p.

Press comment saw 4p added to Pegler-Hattersley at 140p, 11p to Guinness Peat at 124p and Howard Tansley at 66p. Adverse comments saw 8p shed from Kalamazoo to 60p and Dewey down 5p to 199p. And last Friday's raid on Howard Machinery by the US Diamond Industries for a 15 per cent stake added 1p to 24p once the news had settled. Allied dropped a 1p to 63p on news of the Midlands closure.

There is still a shortage of stock in properties, and shares continued last week's upward trend, even though most dealers are discounting any hopes of immediate MLR cuts. Hammer added 5p to 540p, MRC rose 5p to 240p, Haslemere was up 4p to 398p and Stock Convertible remained unchanged at 350p.

Banks remained apprehensive over a possible "windfall" profits tax and banking figures. Barclays were unchanged at 383p, Nat West stayed at 363p but Midland dropped 2p to 318p. Lloyds held at 335p.

Among financials, RP Martin

jumped 10p to 163p on interim results, while speculative support lifted Provident 6p to 131p. Lloyds and Scottish added 1p to 148p and Mercantile House was unchanged at 605p. Insurance lacked any definite trend, but Commercial Union shed 1p to 153p, Gen Acc dropped 2p to 300p and others in the sector were unchanged.

The oil market generally strengthened with hopes from the latest drilling reports adding 3p to Premier at 103p and 20p to 198p at Strada, Roama added 2p to 132p in sympathy. Shell put on 2p to 412p and Tricentra also rose 2p to 324p.

A quiet day was reported by dealers in mining finance

Shares of Sidlow Industries jumped 8p to 115p yesterday, amid reports that M & C Group had increased its stake to about 10 per cent, following the acquisition of around 90,000 shares at the market price.

houses, with shares ending firmer across the sector. Hopes were for a steady gold price. The bullion rate rose to £517 during the day, but closed at £516.5, a rise of £14 from Friday's close. Consolidated Gold recovered lost ground to add 3p to 428p and the United States prime rate cut helped others to gather a few pence. Anglo American Gold added 4p to 401p, RTZ was 3p dearer at 373p, but Lomax which went ex dividend, shed 4p to 103p.

Equity turnover for February was £131.2m, a bargain at 18.55p. Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Argyl Foods, Lomax, Bowater, GEC, Allied Breweries, Ulstermar R. Bechem and Lomax.

Traded options: Dealers reported a total of 758 contracts on a wide spread of companies. Lomax again attracted the most with 144, ICI took 44, and 44 were placed with Racal, 6 with RTZ and 43 with Consolidated Gold.

G M Firth statement as share price leaps

By Our Financial Staff
Sharp share price movements in G. M. Firth (Metals), the Bradford steel stockholders, and property developers, forced the board to put out an early explanatory statement yesterday. The statement said simply: "The directors announce that they are currently engaged in

discussions, which, if successful, will considerably enlarge the trading operations of the group."

A week ago Firth's shares stood at 37p but the price rose steadily last week to 43p and yesterday they jumped to 56p prompting a call from the company's brokers, Rowe & Pitman, suggesting that some kind of statement ought to be made.

Talk in the market before the statement suggested either a takeover bid for Firth or a property revaluation. The latter was based on a report by Mr Gerard Leadbeater, the chairman, in the last annual report that the share price was too low relative to the company's assets.

At this stage it is unclear when a full announcement about the deal will be made. It is, however, an acquisition within the company's existing trading areas.

Mystery of 7pc stake in Evered

By Peter Wilson-Smith
The emergence of a mysterious 7.57 per cent nominee shareholding in Evered, the loss-making West Midlands engineering group, has placed a further obstacle in the way of the agreed £22.5m share bid from Francis Industries.

The shares are held by Investat (Nominees), a subsidiary of stockbrokers Hoare, Govett & Co. The shares were bought on the London Stock Exchange in another agent and Hoare, Govett did not know who the beneficial owner or owners were. However, they had thought it best to notify the company of the stake.

Part of the Investat holding, recently increased by 50,000 to 441,250 shares, appears to have come from Britannia Assurance which sold the remains of its stake in Evered earlier this month at prices averaging about 25p.

Although the directors of Evered have reluctantly recommended the Francis terms, shares in Evered have consistently traded above the offer price and longstanding Arab shareholders in Evered have been increasing their stake in Evered at prices up to 25p.

Between them Zahid Industries and Investments and associates and Mohamed Mahmoud Eade own 39.95 per cent. In addition, Astra Industrial owns 13.1 per cent.

No final after £2m loss at Manchester Ship Canal

By Michael Prest
Higher spending and depressed trading pushed Manchester Ship Canal into operating losses of £2.09m last year. In 1979 the company made profits of £1.06m. The directors recommend that the final dividend should be passed.

Although full details have not yet been released, it is clear that the volume of business has been disappointing. But Mr Donald Redford, the chairman, declined to comment yesterday ahead of a full statement.

Not all the figures were bad. The profit on the sale of the canal was £22,000, against a 1979 loss of £5,000, and the surplus on land sales over valuation was £23,000 instead of £7,000.

Against the trend common to many companies, Manchester Ship Canal cut interest charges from £652,000 to £609,000. After the operating loss of

Howard still in doubt about Diamond's plans

Howard Machinery, the agricultural equipment maker was last night still in the dark over the intentions of Diamond Industries, the Delaware-based group, which staged a takeover stock market raid last Friday afternoon and bought nearly 15 per cent of the shares.

F. Alsop, the chief executive, said he had received no indication of what Diamond intended to do with the holding, but that he would carry on managing the group and try to make a profit in a difficult market.

At the end of November, Howard said that its after-tax loss for 1980 would be £5.8m because of low demand for its products and high interest rates on its net borrowings of £16.6m.

Diamond, which is a private family-controlled business, headed by Mr Stanley Mann, paid 25p each for 4.3 million shares representing 14.9 per cent which it purchased through stockbroker, Schavarian, who obtained them through a client of broker, Morgan Loeb, Stanley.

Diamond described itself as a holding company with diversified interests in energy and financial companies, but Mr Mann attracted attention when

Briefly

Barclays International: Barclays Bank International has opened a new branch in Seattle, under a Federal branch licence. Last week Barclays International opened an agency in Miami. The Seattle branch will concentrate on corporate business, particularly international trade. In the Pacific Northwest states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska, an area which has experienced strong economic growth over recent years.

Murray Caledonian Investment Trust: Preliminary revenue for half-year to December 31, 1980, £365,000 (£311,000). As known, interim dividend is doubled. Winterbottom Trust: NAV at February 6, 1981, 571.5p after deduction of pre-charge at par and 284.6p, after deduction of pre-charge at market values.

Barclay's: Barclay's offer for preference shares of Hensher Future Traders will close on February 23. Barclay's owns 80.57 per cent of the preference.

Electronic Rentals: Following an extensive review of the operations of its subsidiaries, Europacure and Dudes (UK), Electronic Rentals has decided in principle to restructure the company and dispose of the general clothing activities of these two companies.

County Properties and Developments: Glasgow-based private company is planning to increase its bid for Glasgow Picture House. The move follows the announcement that Glasgow Picture House, which owns 38 per cent of Picture House and had made an offer for the rest which expired at the beginning of the month, about to make a further bid. County's offer was at 87.5p a share, putting a value of about £220m on the company.

Burrett & Halliwell Holdings: subsidiary, UK Petroleum Products, has purchased the business of CTR Oil of Midzone, Kent. It is an unconditional and non-contingent offer for the whole of the business, which has been in operation since 1960. The division's first entry into the South East of England.

Dura Mill: Turnover for half-year to September 30, 1980, £11.08 (£14.00). Profits, £899 (£827) after tax of £457 (£430).

Fitch Lovell: Fitch Lovell's offer for Joseph Stewarts and Sons (Holdings) is unconditional and non-contingent. Fitch now owns 97.1 per cent.

Record Ridgeway: Agreement reached with Mabe and Johnson for purchase by Mabe of a subsidiary of Record which is continuing the drop-forging business previously carried on by Mabe Forgings. Price: £480,000.

Johannesburg Consolidated Investments: The South African mining finance house, Investec, has announced that it has acquired a 41.5 per cent stake in the division's first entry into the South East of England.

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Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	total
Electric Machine (I)	1,190(9.3)	0.053(0.039)	1.66(1.12)	—	—	—
Man Ship (F)	25.5(25.2)	0.97(1.73)	74.2(23.1)	—	—	7.5(18.4)
R. P. Martin (I)	4.27(3.21)	0.7(0.282)	10.27(2.75)	11/4	—	—
Murray Caledonia (I)	—	0.36(0.21)	2.58(0.51)	—	—	—
Murray Weston (I)	—	3.11(2.84)	2.38(1.71)	3/4	—	2.3(2.1)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Dividends in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are after tax.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION of

Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL

(Italian National Electric Energy Agency)

7½ Per Cent 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970

Due March 1, 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, on behalf of Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL, that on March 1, 1981, \$3,000,000 principal amount of its 7½ Per Cent 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970 will be redeemed out of moneys to be paid by it to Dillon, Read & Co., as Principal Paying Agent, pursuant to the mandatory, annual redemption requirement of said Bonds and to the related Authenticating Agency Agreement and Paying Agency Agreement, each dated as of March 1, 1970. The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Authenticating Agency, has selected, by lot, for each redemption the Bonds bearing the following serial numbers:

BONDS SELECTED FOR REDEMPTION

2 0089 3039 5501 7276 9014 10764 13540 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	5 1011 3855 5252 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	12 3101 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	15 1618 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	20 2130 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	25 2642 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	30 3154 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	35 3666 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	40 4178 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	45 4690 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	50 5202 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	55 5714 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	60 6226 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	65 6738 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	70 7250 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	75 7762 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	80 8274 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	85 8786 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	90 9298 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	95 9810 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	100 10322 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	105 10834 5854 5224 7276 9014 10770 12699 14003 14231 18297 18241 19100 22005 14003 28847 27411 30175 30954 32901 34305 36778 38033 39652 41079 42094 42071 48171 48975 49000	110 11346 5854 522
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Commodities

[illegible]

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Indices

and Forward

Dollar Spot

Markets

Key Market

Phillips Petroleum 24 to 48.

six million more shares to gain control. A Civil Aeronautics Board side Friday recommended appro-

Part of NY	24%	Wesley	21%	Sid Ill California	91%
Nature Foods	17%	Hamerwell	10%	Sid Ill Indiana	86%
Milk	6%	IC Inds	2%	Sid Ill Ohio	58%
American Steel	2%	Ingersoll	1%	Shelton Drug	21%

[illegible]

Canadian dollar	84.7	+19.6	Belgium	54.24-54.27	
Schilling	114.0	+20.4	Denmark	6.5675-6.5725	Clearing
Belgian franc	108.2	+9.8	West Germany	2.1365-2.1380	
Danish kroner	89.3	+9.9	Portugal	56.00-56.15	Discuss

EMS Currency Rates

Rates		Rat
Ireland	1.7455-1.7473	Bank of

ates . . . 1 month
6 month

5
and NLB 14%

11²⁷ to 12²⁴ 6 months 12²
11¹³ to 11¹⁶

CHICAGO IMM.	
thru weeks:	
April, \$606.50 bid.	June, \$619.80 bid.
July, \$626.40 bid.	Sept. \$639.70 bid.
Oct. \$646.30 bid.	Dec. \$659.60 bid.

SILVER futures posted closing gains of 50 cents or more as speculative buying. The free-trading spot Feb. 15 added 50 cents to \$17.00 an ounce. Feb.

central rates	ECU against	change from central rate	change adjusted ^a	differences limit ^a plus minus	1 month 2 month 3 month
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Euro-\$ Deposits (f.c.) calls, 17½-18½; seven days.

Krugerrand (per coin): 3330- First
533-5326-227.50- 3 month
Sovereign (new): 3130-132-255.50-

Bid	Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
Schroder Life Trust Managers Ltd.					
49 3/4	50 1/4	Marlin's Lane, W22N 4EP	01-240 3334		

71.1	55	Balanced	67.4	12.46	4.38	169.2	12.22	Capital (2)	161.3	12.4	2.74
345.9	41	Do Accum	102.1	108.7	4.24	317.1	153.5	Do Accum	207.0	272.5	2.74
93.0	34	Do Accum	74.1	83.9	9.8	225.7	192.1	Income (2)	208.2	223.96	8.44
109.1	74	Do Accum	242.6	311.3	6.87	387.6	295.0	Do Accum	356.2	366.8	8.44
93.0	81	Income	97.0	94.0	3.27	123.8	80.1	General (3)	116.4	127.36	4.26

144.1	154.8	Property	334	..	246.5	5.50	132.1	155.8	Art Lap Pth	130.8	152.1	1.50
204.6	201.8	Wider Haze	134	..	246.5	5.50						
14.7	71.6	Narrower	134	..	18.6	11.08						

M & G Securities.

Three Oaks Tower Hill, F13B BRO. 01-455 4558

New Alliance Fund Managers Ltd.
4th Floor, 100, Northam, Surrey. 0193 64191

314	40	255	90	Barmpi	F13B	330	20	314	10	8.00
						309.5	17.0			8.00

1980-81		1980-81		1980-81	
High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Bid	Offer	Bid	Offer	Bid	Offer
	Truck		Truck		Truck

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Firm start to account

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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فَكَذَّبَ مِنْ الْأَصْلِ

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools: Colleges: The news in French, 9.35 News. 9.57 Language development for young children. 10.16 Look and Learn. 10.38 Religious and Moral Education. 11.00 Watch-David and Goliath. 11.17 Television Club. 11.38 Time of Mind. 12.05 pm The Real spy world. Closedown at 12.45 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Included in the programme this afternoon is Family Matters, the regular weekly feature on problems that could arise at home. 1.45 Pigeon Street: The first in a new series for the very young. 2.00 You and Me: What Shape is the Sun (r). 2.14 For Schools: Colleges: German conversation. 2.40 Japan—the crowded islands. Closedown at 3.00. 3.20 Pobel y Cwm: Welsh serial. 3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2). 4.30 Tootle Turtie: Cartoon. 4.45 Jackanory: Sheila Hancock reads the Eleanor Farjeon short story The Kind Farmer. 4.40 Animal Magic: With Johnny Morris and Terry Nutkins. This afternoon we see how some creatures have adapted their ways in order to eat more food and in other ways to help them to see how they are settling in at Knowlesy. 5.05 John Craven's

Newsround. 5.15 Grange Hill: Part thirteen in the serial about the pupils and staff of a mixed secondary school. 5.40 News read by Jan Leeming. 5.55 Regional News magazines. 6.25 Nationwide including the weekly series on caring for pets. Animal Matters. 6.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time: Four cartoons this evening, one starring Tom and Jerry another David Lloyd. 7.15 Taxi: American comedy series based on the drivers and passengers of a New York cab company. 7.40 The Man from Uncle: starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum. The two secret service agents find themselves up to the neck in a new series. 8.30 The Arabians. 8.30 Seconds Out: The last episode in the comedy series about a young middle class boxer starting. 9.00 News read by Richard Baker. 9.25 Play: Beloved Enemy by David Leland. This is based on the novel by David Copperfield. Charles Levison who collaborated with Leland in the writing of this play. 9.30 Lancelotti: A British multinational company on the threshold of a large deal with the Russians. 11.05 Omnibus: The Story of G. A. film about the colourful career of designer James Gardner who designed, among other things, the

BBC 2

10.00 am Business World: The fifth in a series of ten programmes giving advice to people with small businesses. Closedown at 10.25. 11.00 Play School: The presenters are Elizabeth Millbank and Don Spencer. 11.30 The World of Sleepyhead by Moyna McWilliam. 11.35 Speak for Yourself: Advice on how to apologize and to complain with the programme on the subject of neighbours (r). Closedown at 11.50. 2.30 pm Roads to Conflict: A series of ten programmes examining the origins of the Arab-Israeli dispute. Part five: From Rebellion to War (r). 3.00 Omnibus of Reality: The last of a five programme series on the films and attitudes of people in the 1930s (r). 3.30 Living City: The final programme in a five-part sociological series based on the city of Lancaster. Closedown 3.55

5.30 Charlie Chaplin: In Easy Street he proves that ex-convicts make the best policemen. 6.00 The Detectives: Jeremy Beadle, with the last in his series on deception, has in the studio Professor R. Jones who talks about some of the mass deceptions in history beginning with the Trojan Horse. 6.30 Lancelotti: A British multinational company on the threshold of a large deal with the Russians. 11.05 Omnibus: The Story of G. A. film about the colourful career of designer James Gardner who designed, among other things, the

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Maths for young children. 9.47 Different forms of Christianity. 10.04 A history of film. 10.25 The Bill Grundy explores the South Downs. 10.48 A-level chemistry. 11.05 Maths for seven to nine. 11.30 The last of a five programme series on the films and attitudes of people in the 1930s (r). 3.30 Living City: The final programme in a five-part sociological series based on the city of Lancaster. Closedown 3.55

novel about life in 19th C. Northumberland adapted for television by Jack Russell (r). 3.45 Unforgettable: Alan Freeman, with another half hour of post-war comedy. 4.00 The Bill Grundy explores the South Downs. 4.48 A-level chemistry. 4.50 The last of a five programme series on the films and attitudes of people in the 1930s (r). 3.30 Living City: The final programme in a five-part sociological series based on the city of Lancaster. Closedown 3.55

Barnes Pleasure Gardens and supervised the overall look of the show. 11.25 Platform One presented by Rob Williams. The programme changes its format this evening and we meet people whose life has been changed, either tragically or otherwise, by a single incident. Tonight we meet Michael Rogers who at 21 was struck down by a mysterious virus which has left him paralysed from the neck down. Now 44 he lives with his wife, a nurse, near Stoke Mandeville. 11.55 News headlines.

Regions

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